



# The Sacrament Of Baptism



*Baptism is the first sacrament we receive and the way in which a person becomes a member of the Catholic Church.*

If you are considering Baptism for your child, you will first need to have a meeting with the parish priest. Please read through the information below and then contact the parish office on **020 8654 1709** to make an appointment with Fr Keith or Fr Tomasz.

- **Do you live within our parish boundary and/or worship at Our Lady's?**

If we are not your parish church, you may go into a different category when or if you apply to catholic schools. It is usually best to receive the Sacraments within your own parish.

- **Have you recently moved to the area?**

If so, you will need to provide a letter from a previous church to confirm your attendance elsewhere.

- **Do you have your own Baptism Certificate?**

At least one parent should be Catholic, and *the priest will need to see their Baptism certificate at the initial meeting*. If you need to apply for one, then the meeting date will be put on hold until it has been received.

- **Are you able to attend our Baptism preparation class?**

This is compulsory before Baptism can take place. They happen *every second Saturday of the month*, in church, and last for about an hour. *Both parents should attend where possible, but if not, it should be a Catholic parent*. A date for Baptism can be booked at this session or afterwards by phoning the parish office.

- **Who will you chose to be a Godparent to your child?**

Please decide who you want to be Godparents before arranging your meeting. You are required to have at least two Godparents (one of each gender – male & female) who must be:

**(At least one) A practising Catholic – Each Godparent should obtain a letter from their own Parish Priest confirming their worship.** Other Christian denominations such as Anglican, Pentecostal or Baptist can be classed as Christian Witnesses to the Baptism. *Unfortunately members of other faiths, or of none, are not eligible due to the Baptismal vows undertaken.*

**Over the age of 16**

**Confirmed**

**In good standing with the church**

**Living a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken**

If you are happy with all the above information and would like to arrange a Baptism, please print off our **Baptism Application form** and bring it along to your meeting. (Forms can also be obtained from the parish office if needed) **PLEASE NOTE: If your child is adopted, please do not complete this form, but speak to the Parish Priest instead.**