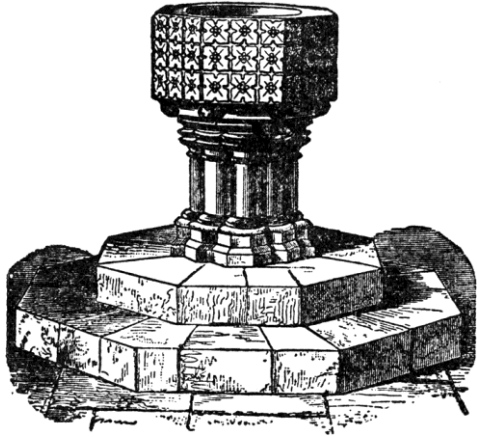


BAPTISMS at ST THERESA'S and ST JOSEPH'S Catholic Churches



Dear Parents

Congratulations on the birth of your child. We will be very pleased to welcome your child into the community of faith – The Church. In baptism your child will be made a child of God. God has made you partners with Him in the act of creation. Through you, God has given this child life. God has also given another great gift to your child – the gift of love, life with Him in the family of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. We call this life Grace.

If your child is to receive this great gift and be Christened – made like Christ, there are certain things you must do:

You must be a practicing Catholic i.e. at Mass each week, be saying your prayers each day and loving God and those around you. If you have not been attending Mass you must start now and go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). For this, you will need to think about your life and the sins for which you need God's forgiveness. If you cannot think of any, perhaps this is a sign of how far you have drifted away from God – the priest will help you to resolve this.

After you have been coming to Mass each Sunday for six months and promise to continue to do so after baptism, then we can fix a date.

If you are not married, your children can still be baptised, but you must think carefully about why you are not married and if this is not the time to begin to arrange to be married – particularly if you are living together.

In marriage God gives to both of you his love and help in all the ups and downs, all the happiness and the struggles of life. Why try and manage without his help? God is always with us in marriage, he is with us in very special ways – for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. _____

Name of child _____

Date of birth _____

I promise to come to Mass each week before and after the baptism of my child.
I have read the above letter and accept what it says.