

Letter to Parents

Infant Baptism

Dear Parent(s) or guardians,

If anyone requests baptism for their child and is not a weekly attender at Sunday Mass here or elsewhere they will be invited to come to Mass each Sunday for about three consecutive months before a date is set for the baptism. If for a good reason they cannot attend some of these masses, please let me know. After this, a date can be set for the baptism.

However, if they attend Mass weekly here or in another parish, the baptism can proceed without delay. If practising in another parish a letter from the Parish Priest to state this would be appreciated. Babies should normally be baptised around six weeks after birth. At least one of the godparents should be a practising catholic – better still if it's two. One of the baby's names should be called after a saint in the Christian calendar of saints.

If the parents of the child to be baptised were not married in the Catholic Church or are unmarried they are strongly encouraged to get married or have their marriage regularised in the Catholic Church. The priest will help you with this. If Catholics marry outside the Church or are unmarried, they are kindly asked to refrain from receiving Holy Communion until the situation is regularised. If it is not regularised it will make the catholic upbringing of their child problematic. The parents make a promise at the baptismal ceremony to bring their child up in the Catholic faith and being able to receive Holy Communion as parents will help to make good this promise.

May God bless you as parents and help you bring up your child /children as loyal and faithful Catholics.

Fr Paddy

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