

Dear Parents:

You may be considering the Sacrament of Holy Baptism for your child. I hope this letter answers some of your questions.

Baptism is seen as a new birth in a spiritual sense, as one is incorporated into the Body of Christ, the Christian Church. One is not baptized into a particular denomination, but into the Christian Church.

Worship is important for the Christian of all ages for as is so often the case, the faith is 'caught' as well as 'taught'. Some of you may be members of Holy Trinity and others will be new to the area, and to the Church. We invite you to worship with us, that you may be a part of a Christian Community that gathers for fellowship around God's Altar and enters into the main worship service of the Christian, the Holy Eucharist (Communion, the Mass).

We have a Sunday School at 10:00 (September - June) and a Nursery is provided as well.

Children go to Church School for classes and then enter the Service at the offertory hymn as we prepare for Communion. You will see various ages of people receiving Communion, for as long as one is baptized, s/he is welcome to receive the Sacrament. (Confirmation is no longer a requirement for Communion). Holy Baptism is considered to be 'full entry' into the Church.

Baptism is an important beginning, not an end in itself. The church speaks of a God who creates us and walked this earth in the person of Jesus; and of God's gift of the Holy Spirit to help us and bless us on the journey. You will hear this spoken of as the Holy Trinity, traditionally seeing God as Father, Son & Holy Spirit.

Our Baptisms take place at the 10:00 Eucharist, at various times throughout the year. This emphasizes the corporate nature of Baptism. Some people ask if there is a charge for Baptism; the simple answer is 'No'. Anyone who chooses to make an Thanksgiving Offering to the Church will receive a tax receipt of course.

Again, I invite you to worship with us at Holy Trinity; I hope this answers some of your questions. Please read the information that follows.

In Christ

The Rev'd. Canon Stephen Fields

**PLEASE READ THIS BEFORE COMPLETING THE ATTACHED FORMS**

1. Baptismal Preparation for parents and godparents will take place in the Church. **IF YOU ARE NOT PRESENT ON THE DAYS OF THE PREPARATION, YOUR CHILD MAY NOT BE BAPTISED.**
  
2. Only **baptized Christians who affirm the practice of Infant Baptism as a means of incorporation into the Christian Church will be accepted as Godparents.** They should also be prepared to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. At least **One Parent and One Godparent must** be a **practising Anglican** (*exceptions are at the discretion of the clergy*) and **be prepared to reaffirm their allegiance to Christ and Christ's Church.**
  
3. You:
  - (a) should be an member of The Christian Church be participating in the worshipping life of The Church.
  - (b) must make a commitment to give your child a Christian upbringing, to help the child in personal prayer at meals and at bedtime.
  - (c) are responsible for bringing the child to Sunday School and Church regularly.
  - (d) must be prepared to cooperate with the Parish in the spiritual growth and nourishment of the child.
  
4. If you or the Godparents are not willing to raise your child to follow Jesus by **Personal Example, Prayer and Church Attendance**, and are also unable to keep the vows that you will be asked to make in the name of your child, perhaps you should not ask to have your child baptised. ***Do you desire for yourself what you ask for your child?***



## Holy Trinity Church

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### ***APPLICATION OF HOLY BAPTISM***

Parents seeking HOLY BAPTISM for their child in this Church should be prepared, to the best of their ability, to give him/her a CHRISTIAN upbringing within the family of CHRIST'S CHURCH, to help him/her to be regular in attendance at public worship and in private prayer, not only by their teaching, but also by example and encourage him/her in due time to affirm these vows and become a regular Communicant.

Full Name of Candidate /  
Child

Place of birth

Date of birth

Full Name of Father

Full Name of Mother

Address (# Street)

City

Province

Postal  
Code

Phone Number(s)

Home

Business

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**HOLY BAPTISM** is the service of **CHRISTIAN INITIATION** and therefore, it is appropriate that the Baptism takes place during the major service of the day.

**Please return this completed form to the Rector as soon as possible**

**For Church  
Use**

Date of Baptism

Date of Interview

Information recorded in Register and on Parish List

Cleared with local Rector (where family living outside of Parish)

Please turn over



***THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM: GOD-PARENTS***

Careful consideration ought to be given when choosing your child’s godparents. Godparents, with the parents, have the important task of continually witnessing to the child whom they bring to Baptism. Before you ask anyone to be your child’s godparent, please ask yourself the following questions:

- **Is that person a Baptised member of the Christian Church?**
- **Does s/he participate in the life of the Church?**
- **Will s/he encourage the child's spiritual development through the example of my own faith and Christian practice?**

If the answer to **ANY** of the above is **“NO”**, **DO NOT SUBMIT THAT PERSON’S NAME. Under no circumstance will it be accepted.**

Sponsor’s Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address (# Street) \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Church (state denomination) \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor’s Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address (# Street) \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Church (state denomination) \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor’s Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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Home Church (state denomination) \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor’s Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address (# Street) \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Church (state denomination) \_\_\_\_\_

***I understand that the parents must attend the pre-baptism meetings with the godparents.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent's signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent's signature)