

## **The Sacrament of Baptism**

### **Booking in form**

**Please print and write clearly**

Childs name and Baptismal Name \_\_\_\_\_

Childs Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Fathers name \_\_\_\_\_

Mothers name and maiden name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Godparents 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Baptism \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_

Priest who will baptize child \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

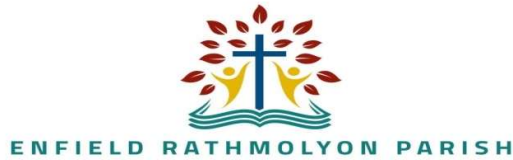
We confirm that the above details match those on the State Birth Certificate

Signed: Mother of child \_\_\_\_\_

Father of child \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Tel . No \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_



Dear Parent(s).

Congratulations on the birth of your baby. The parish community wishes your family health and happiness. Baptisms are joyful occasions in our parish. If you wish to have your child baptised please contact Betty in the parish where you will be able to confirm the date of the Baptism and other relevant material.

### **Baptisms take place on**

Saturday afternoons at 2.00pm in Rathmolyon and 3.00pm in Jordanstown.

Sunday after the 10.00am Mass in Rathmolyon and after the 11.00am in Jordanstown.

***The guidelines below will hopefully assist in your preparations and understanding of the sacrament of baptism.***

### **First step of initiation into the Roman Catholic Church.**

Baptism is not about getting your child blessed. Baptism is primarily about welcoming your child into the Christian family and beginning the process of initiation of your child into the Roman Catholic Church. It is your faith that is bringing your child to Baptism. Therefore if you no longer feel you would like to be an active member of the Roman Catholic Church you should not have your child baptized. You should not be pressurized by grandparents or other family members into having your child baptized. You will still be welcome to baptize your child in future years if you change your mind.

### **Parents Faith**

By Baptising your child you are taking on the task of passing on the Christian faith and Roman Catholic traditions to your child. It is not the responsibility of the school or anyone else to pass on the faith to them; it will be your responsibility (but the parish will be here to help when you need). You will publically promise to do this during the baptismal ceremony. So it is important that you are open to growing in your faith so as you can bring your son/daughter up in the Christian Faith. In practical terms this means attending Sunday Mass, being actively involved in the parish (no matter how small), continuing to learn about your faith and to develop it, and contributing to the parish finances throughout the year (no matter how small).

## **God Parents**

For the Baptismal ceremony you will need to choose God Parents. Godparents have an important role. They must support you and your child in the faith. Therefore they themselves must be Roman Catholics, attend Mass regularly, be strong in faith and be good role models. They must be over 16 years old, be baptized and confirmed. When they take on the role as Godparents it is expected that they play a role in your family and an active role in assisting you to pass on the faith to your child. Therefore it makes no sense if God parents live in a different country. However we understand that baptism is an opportunity of strengthening bonds with family members who have moved abroad and if it is a strong desire of parents that a relative living abroad be a God Parent there is space for a third Godparent.

## **The importance of the home**

The home should be a place where they are reminded of God and helped to pray by what they see around them. Religion and faith begins at home. Parents are the first religion teachers and the most important of all teachers of religion.

## **What to bring on the day**

A white shawl/blanket which your child will be wrapped in during the ceremony.

A baptismal candle (each of your children should have their own candle)

2 Godparents

Each ceremony will have no more than 2 children to be baptized. Out of consideration for the other family please arrive on time.