

Baptism in the Parishes of St. Oswald and St. Sebastian



It's great that you are having your child baptised.
You are very welcome here.

Passing on your faith to your child is one of the
greatest gifts that you can give them.

Baptism welcomes your child into the Christian
family in the Roman Catholic Church.



**Here are the answers to some commonly
asked questions.**

To have your child baptised in our parishes
one parent must be a baptised Roman
Catholic and you must live in our parish
boundary.

Baptism is a day of celebration for your family. It is also a
celebration for our Parish family. When you ask to have
your child baptised we hope that you will come to Mass and
take part in the life of our Catholic community.

God-parents

- When children are baptised they are often too young to commit to being Christians themselves. The parents of the child promise to bring him or her up to know about Jesus and their faith. Godparents promise to help the parents carry out this duty in any way they can, largely by setting a good example for the children to follow.
- At least one of the God-parents must be a Roman Catholic. All must be baptised Christians.
- There may be from one to four God-parents.

When do baptisms take place?

- Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays.

On the first and third Sunday of the month baptisms are held for St. Oswald's Parish.

On the second and third Sundays of the month baptisms are at St. Sebastian's Church.



- Baptisms start promptly at 12.15.
The service normally lasts about half an hour.
- You must attend a Baptism preparation course before we can give you a date for the baptism. This takes place over two evenings. You can attend the course at either parish if you wish. Look at the parish newsletter for dates of the next baptism preparation courses.
- You can choose the Sunday you have your child baptized after you have attended both sessions of the baptism preparation course. Remember that some dates may already be fully booked.

- Make sure you speak to a parish helper at the end of the second baptism preparation meeting and get the date you would like in the diary.
- You will also be invited to a Presentation Mass when all the families preparing for Baptism are prayed for and blessed.
- Sunday Mass at St. Oswald's is at 9.30am and at St. Sebastian's at 11am.
- Children who are over 7 years old must also have some preparation themselves with a parish helper. Please let us know if your child will be over 7 at the time of baptism.

Is there a fee?

There is no fee. A basket will be left at the back of the Church for baptismal offerings. Please support your Church as generously as you can. We depend on what people give us to keep the Church going.

You will be given a Gift Aid envelope which you can use to make your donation. If you are a tax payer we can claim back extra money from the government if you fill in your details.

Baptism is only the beginning.

- Please think about enrolling your child in one of the Catholic schools in our parishes where they will learn more about their faith and will be educated in a caring and Christian environment.
- Please bring your child to Mass so that they can grow up knowing that God loves them and that they are part of the Catholic family.

- Make sure that your home has a book of Bible stories that your child can look at as they learn to read. Teach them to say their prayers. Children's bibles and prayer books are available at the back of church after Mass.
- Baptism is only the beginning of a journey. It is the first of the Sacraments to be received. We hope that your child will also choose to make their First Confession, Confirmation and First Holy Communion, and while they are at primary school.

If you would like to know more about taking part in the Mass, learning about your faith, becoming a Catholic or getting married in Church please talk to Fr. Mark who will be very happy to answer your questions and help in any way he can.



If you have any questions or if you would like to book your place on a baptism preparation course please contact our Parish Office.

St. Oswald's Presbytery
St. Oswald Street,
Old Swan,
Liverpool L13 5SB

Telephone: 0151 2283327

Please visit our parish website for more information about the life of our parishes and about the Catholic Faith:

www.sebosw.org