

BAPTISM INFORMATION SHEET

Congratulations and thank you for bringing your child(ren) for baptism. This is an important occasion, not only for you, but for all of us in St Mary's Parish, Sale.

To help you more fully understand Initiation into the Church Community of God's children - which the Sacrament of Baptism signifies - we ask you to participate in a 'Baptism Preparation Session', and a 'Rite of Welcome' (which is the first part of the Baptism Ceremony itself). As the minimum requirement for Baptism in St Mary's Sale Parish, attendance at both of these is necessary. As in Baptism parents commit themselves to the faith-life of their child/children. By attending a Preparation Session and Rite of Welcome the parish will assist you to grow in your understanding of the significance of Baptism.

- **BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSIONS** will be discussed when you meet with a Parish Priest. You can arrange this by calling the Parish Office on 5144 4100. These meetings are usually held on the second Thursday of each month between February and November each year.
- **THE RITE OF WELCOME** can be celebrated at any weekend Mass you choose "after" having attended a Baptism Preparation Session and "prior to" the Baptism. If you wish, the Rite of Welcome and Baptism can happen on the same day, or on separate occasions.
- **WEEKEND MASS TIMES:**
 - Sale – Saturday Vigil – 5.30pm
 - Sunday - 9.30am, 5.30pm
 - Stratford - 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays 9.30am Mass
 - Rosedale - 5.30pm Saturday
 - Briagolong - 2nd & 4th Sunday 9.30am Mass
- **FOR BAPTISM TIMES:** See the 'Rite of Welcome' and 'Baptism' Booking Form.
- **BAPTISM OFFERING:** There is never a charge for a Sacrament. The amount suggested by the Diocese to cover the administration of a baptism is \$50.00. An envelope is available for this purpose. Generally, we ask people to pay online and details of where to pay are on the email you will be sent with this information sheet and the booking forms.
- **REQUISITES FOR BAPTISM:** For each baptism the child/ren will require a Candle and White stole. These can be purchased at the Parish Office. The stoles are plain and cost \$10. Candles purchased from the Parish Office and are \$15 and decorated with the child's name and date of baptism. Both can be purchased online or elsewhere if preferred. Refer to the 'Baptism Candle and Stole order form' for additional details. The certificate and candle (if ordered) will be available on the day of the Baptism. You will also need to meet with one of our Priest's prior to the Baptism.

BAPTISM PROGRAM - RSVP

Would you complete the Rite of Welcome and Baptism Booking Form and return to the Parish Office via email at sale@cdsale.org.au. Please read the publication '2025 Baptism Preparation of Infants booklet'. Please check with the office by phone or email which preparation session is available for you to attend. Baptism preparation sessions take place at 7.00pm in the Chapter House (off Reeve St) – parking is available. They are held on the second Tuesday of each month between February and November. *(No sessions are held in December or January)*

We look forward to seeing you there. Thank you.

Very Reverend Dean Francis Otober