

Some people think of Baptism simply as something else to “get done”.

They speak of Baptism as having the baby “done”. That is unfortunate. For Baptism is a birth into the Christian community and is as solemn and important as birth itself. It is an event that needs to be prepared for.

Your most important preparation is to look at your own faith. The fact that you ask to have your baby baptised should be a sign that you recognise the importance of God in your own life and in the life of your child.

From the earliest days of the Church children too young to answer for themselves have been baptised because their parents wanted them to share in the life and the faith of God and his Church and promised to nourish that faith.

As you help your child to grow up in the love of God they will also help you grow.

As you teach your child to pray you yourself will deepen your prayer.

As you teach your child to appreciate the Mass your own faith will be enriched.

Baptism is the beginning of a journey in faith, but we travel together as a Catholic faith community.

BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION:

Sunday.....
2.00pm-5.00pm In the St Peter’s Secondary College, Clyde North



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH – CLYDE NORTH

MASS TIMES:

Saturday: 6.00pm
Sunday 9.00am & 10.45am

at St. Peter’s College -
55 Mackillop Way Clyde North

PARISH PRIEST: Rev Fr Denis O’Bryan

PARISH OFFICE:

50 Heather Grove
Cranbourne East
Telephone: 5998 0947

Email: parish@stthomasap.org.au
www.stthomasap.org.au

**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PRIMARY
SCHOOL:** 5 Fiorelli Blvd Cranbourne East
Tel: 5998 9293

ST. PETER’S SECONDARY COLLEGE:

Cnr Heather Grove & MacKillop Way,
Clyde North
Tel: 5990 7777

INVITATION

TO

**ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE
PARISH CLYDE NORTH**

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAM

**FOR
PARENTS
(and GODPARENTS are welcome)**

**EVERY FIRST SUNDAY
OF THE MONTH
2.00 – 5.00 PM**

IN

ST PETER’S SECONDARY COLLEGE

**55 Mackillop Way, Clyde North
(entrance via Heather Grove)**

We will be attending the

BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION on

Sunday: _____

Name of Parents: _____

Place of Marriage: _____

[i.e: Name of Church]

Name of Child: _____

Age: _____ years _____ months

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number attending: _____

Please hand in to the Parish Office or send to:
**ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH –
PO BOX 6089, CLYDE VIC 3978**

YOUR CHILD’S BAPTISM

We initiate small children into the Church through Baptism because parents ask. During the ceremony the priest will say:

You have asked to have your child baptised.

In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him/her in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him/her up to keep God’s commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbour. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?

Hopefully you can and will answer: ***“We do”.***

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

BAPTISM is the first step of initiation into a new way of life: the life of God and of a member of God’s family, the Church, locally: St. Agatha’s Parish.

Through Baptism God does three things:

- * We are born again, we become children of God and He takes away sin.
- * He sends the Holy Spirit to dwell within us.
- * He makes us members of the Church.

PARENTS RESPONSIBILITY

By asking to have your child baptised you are accepting some responsibilities.

- * You will be the ‘first’ teacher of your child ‘in the ways of faith’.
- * You will introduce your child into the life of God and the Church.

HOW DO YOU DO THIS?

To keep God’s commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbour:

You teach your child

- * By the example of your own life.
- * You teach your child about God and Jesus as our Saviour.
- * Help your child in going to Mass and being introduced into the life of the Parish.
- * Your life style of loving neighbour is important.

GODPARENTS:

A Catholic child must have at least one Godparent who is Catholic, over the age of sixteen, who has made their Sacraments and is firm in their faith. Their role will be that of supporting you as parents in bringing up your child in the Christian faith. As long as there is one Catholic Godparent, the child can also have a “Christian Witness’ who is not Catholic but is a Baptised Christian. A person cannot be a Christian witness if they have not been baptised in another faith.

RITE OF WELCOME:

For parents, child & Godparents [if possible] is held on the Sunday of the Baptism during the 10.45am Mass.

TIME OF BAPTISM:

Sundays at 12.00 noon

COST: It is customary to give a donation to support the work of God. Anything between \$20 and \$50 seems reasonable.