

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the Parishioners of Mary, Help of Christians Parish I congratulate you on the birth of your child and warmly welcome your child as a candidate for Baptism and admission into the Catholic Church.

The Ceremony of Baptism will address these words to you; “You have asked to have your child Baptised. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training 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?”

Might I suggest that you consider the seriousness of your reply and the responsibilities it entails.

Briefly these are:

- Your own growth in faith and Sunday Mass attendance.
- To teach your child by word and example so he/she will grow in virtue and the love of God.
- At the appropriate time, to prepare your child for the other Sacraments, (Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation).

I invite you to read carefully the following requirements, fill out the enclosed form and return it to the Parish Office prior to the Baptism.

It is customary to make an offering to the Church on the occasion of your child’s Baptism. You will be given a Baptism Offering envelope that can be handed in with your form, to the Celebrant on the day or you can make an offering online at www.mhoc.org.au.

Yours in Christ Jesus

Fr Emil Milat Parish Priest



BAPTISM

TIMES

Baptisms are held at any of our Mass times or at 11.30am on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

Please be prompt:

- ❖ If you are celebrating the Baptism at 11.30am, please arrive 10 min prior.
- ❖ If you are celebrating the Baptism during a Mass, please ensure you arrive 15 min prior to commencement. Reserved seating will be provided in front of the church.

INFORMATION EVENING

Information evenings are held on the second Wednesday of each month in the Parish Hall at 7.00pm. Parents only need attend.

The evening brings the families of those to be Baptised together to help you understand:

- ❖ the importance of Baptism for you and your child;
- ❖ the responsibility you are undertaking;
- ❖ the meaning of the liturgy and symbols; and
- ❖ to answer any questions you might have regarding your role or the ceremony.

A short video will be viewed during the session; you can also see the video at home at; <http://bustedhalo.com/video/baptism>

GODPARENTS

Godparents are people who can take an interest in your child’s spiritual welfare.

- ❖ They should be baptised, a confirmed Catholic and at least 15 years of age.
- ❖ If for some special reason a non-Catholic is chosen, they take the role of ‘Christian Witness’. The person should be a baptised, believing Christian, and be prepared to help your child/ren in their spiritual growth.
- ❖ A Godparent may be represented by a proxy or ‘stand in’, if unable to be physically present on the day.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

INTRODUCTORY RITE

- ❖ Reception of the child
- ❖ Reception of the parents
- ❖ Sign of the cross on child's forehead

CELEBRATION OF GOD'S WORD

- ❖ Scripture reading
- ❖ Intercessions
- ❖ Anointing on the chest



CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

- ❖ Blessing of Baptismal water
- ❖ Renewal of Baptismal vows and Profession of Faith
- ❖ BAPTISM
- ❖ Baptismal symbols:
 - Anointing with Chrism
 - Clothing with white garment
 - Lighted candle
 - Ephphetha (prayer over ear & mouth)

CONCLUDING RITE

- ❖ Lord's Prayer
- ❖ Final Blessing

PRACTICAL REQUIREMENTS

WHITE GARMENT – Our Parish gives each newly baptised child a small white Baptism robe. You may of course provide your own white Baptism robe or garment.



CANDLE – Also part of the ceremony, a symbol that represents the light of Christ. A candle is provided however you may provide your own if you prefer.

Updated January 2024



BAPTISM INFORMATION



The Parish Community congratulates you on the birth of your child and for choosing to welcome them into the Catholic community through Baptism

THE PARISH OFFICE IS LOCATED BEHIND THE CHURCH
AND IS STAFFED FROM 9AM-3PM TUESDAY - FRIDAY.

115 Hodgson Crescent
PEARCE ACT 2607
Ph. 6286 1908

Parish e-mail: wodensouth@cg.org.au
Website: www.mhoc.org.au

PARISH PRIEST: FATHER EMIL MILAT

OFFICE MANAGER: MELANIE KERR

CHURCH LOCATION

Sacred Heart Church
115 Hodgson Crescent, Pearce ACT

