



Baptism Application Form

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST
3 SPRINGFIELD ROAD
HORSHAM, WEST SUSSEX, RH12 2PJ
ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ARUNDEL & BRIGHTON, UK

Tel: 01403 253667 Email: horsham@abdiocese.org.uk

Dear Parents,

Having your children baptised is an important step and it needs to be thought about carefully. It means that they are becoming a Christian and they are being welcomed into the Family of God. You, as parents, are undertaking to bring up your children to know and to practise the faith of the Holy Catholic Church.

As parents, you have given life to your child, but birth is only the beginning. Your child still depends upon you for everything, for food, for clothes and for a loving home in which to grow. This is equally true of the Christian life. Baptism is only the beginning. The home is the primary training ground; the parents are the most important teachers.

When school time comes, our Catholic School will help to continue the education of your child by teaching not only academic skills and crafts, but also, and most importantly, assist in preparing your child for the Sacraments and deepening their knowledge of the Catholic Faith. However, it must be said, that the school is no substitute for a family where the faith is really lived; a home that recognises its need for God and where prayer is central to its everyday life; a home that treasures Holy Mass and all the life-giving Sacraments of the Church.

This is what you are taking on. If you are willing to accept the obligation of bringing up your child in the knowledge and practice of the Catholic Faith, then please complete the form overleaf.

Father Tristan Cranfield

Important Information

The Preparation Sessions

All parents who wish their child to be baptised should attend the three preparation sessions in advance of the Baptism service. It is important that both parents should attend since it is important that both parents share together in the spiritual upbringing of their child, but if not then at least ONE must attend (children are also welcome).

The sessions are at **St John's Parish Hall, 3 Springfield Road, Horsham**. These take place in March, June, September and December and it essential to attend **ALL** sessions. The sessions will usually be held on the first and second and third Tuesday of the month and they run from 7pm to approximately 8pm.

At the end of the second session, you will be advised on Clergy availability and Baptism slots. The Baptisms should take place within six weeks of preparation. There could be up to three families per Baptism. The Baptisms will then be booked through the Parish Office. They cannot be booked prior to attendance at the preparation sessions.

Godparents

The Godparent(s) are chosen whose role it is to provide the parents with help and support in bringing the child up as a Catholic. There is a **maximum of two**, they should **be Confirmed and practicing Catholics over the age of 16**. A baptised person of another Christian denomination may serve alongside a Catholic Godparent but only as a witness to the Ceremony.

The Baptism Service

The usual Baptism time in the Parish is the second and fourth weekend of the month, on Sundays at 3:30pm. Baptism is not normally offered during the seasons of Lent and Advent (except in emergency).

Please arrange to arrive a few minutes early so that the service can start on time.

The service will have been explained during the Preparation Sessions. You should bring a white garment with you. Please explain the service to the Godparents before coming to the service.

On the occasion of a Baptism, **it is customary to make an offering to the Priest or Deacon** (suggested amount £50). This should be given at the end of the ceremony.

There is also a Rite of Welcome which will be on a Sunday Mass after the Baptism where you will receive the Certificate.

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS (and hand in to the Parish Office)

Child

Christian Names..... Boy/Girl.....

Surname.....

Date of Birth.....

Place of Birth.....

Parents

Full Name of Father.....

If Roman Catholic,

Date and place of Baptism.....

(Please attach copy of certificate)

Date and place of Confirmation.....

(Please attach copy of certificate)

If not Roman Catholic, please state specific Religion.....

Full Name of Mother.....

If Roman Catholic,

Date and place of Baptism.....

(Please attach copy of certificate)

Date and place of Confirmation.....

(Please attach copy of certificate)

If not Roman Catholic, please state specific Religion.....

Maiden Name of Mother

Address.....

.....

Post Code.....

Tel. Numbers.

Father's email address.....

Mother's email address.....

Mass usually attended. Time and place.....

Godparents

Full Name of Godfather..... Religion.: Roman Catholic*

Date and place of Baptism.....

(Please attach copy of certificate)

Date and place of Confirmation.....

(Please attach copy of certificate)

Full Name of Godmother..... Religion.: Roman Catholic*

Date and place of Baptism.....

(Please attach copy of certificate)

Date and place of Confirmation.....

(Please attach copy of certificate)

PLEASE NOTE:

***There is a maximum of two Godparents. Both Godparents must be a practicing Catholic and must have been Confirmed**

I have read and understood the information provided overleaf and I undertake to bring up my child in the Catholic Faith.

In signing, I agree for my information to be stored on the parish database

Signature (Father)

Signature (Mother)

Date