

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY  
*Roman Catholic Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle*



Having your child baptised  
at the Cathedral

### **Who can be baptised at the Cathedral?**

A child should be baptised in the parish in which his/her parents live, or in the church which the parents regularly attend. Parents who live outside the Cathedral parish and who wish to have their child baptised at the Cathedral must be regular practising members of the Cathedral community.

### **When are Baptisms celebrated?**

Usually, at least three months notice is required. Baptisms are arranged by prior appointment with the Cathedral priests and are celebrated on Sundays at 12.45pm (that is, after the last morning Mass).

### **What Preparation is required?**

A Preparation Course is held at the Cathedral for parents (and, if they wish, godparents). The Preparation Course usually takes place on a Saturday, beginning mid morning and finishing in the afternoon. This course is led by trained members of the Cathedral community. On completion of the course, please contact the Cathedral Office to arrange a date for the Baptism.

### **How many Godparents should there be?**

Church law says: 'One sponsor [that is, godparent], male or female, is sufficient, but there may be two, one of each sex' (Canon 873). The godparents should be confirmed and practising Catholics in good standing with the Church. Christians of other denominations may act as witnesses in addition to the Catholic godparent(s).

### **What is the Church's tradition about choosing a name?**

For centuries it has been the practice to name a child after a Christian saint. Although parents are not obliged to do so, they are encouraged to give their child a name which reflects their Christian faith.

### **What are the fees for a Baptism?**

There are no set fees or charges. It is, however, customary for parents to make an offering to the Cathedral and to the priest after the Baptism.

# BAPTISM REQUEST FORM

(to be completed by parents)

Saint Mary's Cathedral  
Clayton Street West  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 5HH  
Tel: 0191 232 6953 Email: [office@stmaryscathedral.org.uk](mailto:office@stmaryscathedral.org.uk)

Child's Surname .....

Child's Christian names.....

Date of Birth .....

Father's full name .....

Father's religion .....

Mother's full name .....

Mother's maiden name.....

Mother's religion .....

When & where married.....

Home address .....

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.....

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Telephone number .....

Email address .....

Godparents (1).....

(2).....

*Please return to Cathedral Office and someone will contact you regarding the Preparation Course.*