



# Holy Cross & St Patrick Parish

*Served by the Society of the Divine Saviour – The Salvatorians*

Parish Priest: Father Auson Kamugisha, SDS

Assistant Priest: Father Dieudonné Zeng, SDS

Pastoral Assistants: Deacons Oluwole Alayo & Tony Wentworth

The Priests House & Chapel, 1a Conway Road, Plumstead, SE18 1AQ

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[www.stpatricksholycross.org.uk](http://www.stpatricksholycross.org.uk)

## APPLICATION FOR BAPTISM

### PLEASE PRINT ALL NAMES IN CAPITAL LETTERS

NAME OF CHILD: \_\_\_\_\_ SEX M/F

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE AT BAPTISM: \_\_\_\_\_

FATHER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ RELIGION: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTHER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ RELIGION: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ POST CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ MOBILE: \_\_\_\_\_

GODFATHER(S): \_\_\_\_\_ RELIGION: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ RELIGION: \_\_\_\_\_

GODMOTHER(S): \_\_\_\_\_ RELIGION: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ RELIGION: \_\_\_\_\_

*(AT LEAST ONE GODPARENT MUST BE A PRACTISING CATHOLIC)*

In asking to have your child baptised, you are accepting the responsibility of training your child in the Practice of the Catholic Faith. It will be your duty to bring your child up to keep God's commandments, as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbour.

**WE/I DECLARE THAT WE/I UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF THE CHRISTIAN BAPTISM AND WILL FULFIL OUR/MY DUTY TO RAISE OUR/MY CHILD IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH.**

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ *FATHER* \_\_\_\_\_ *MOTHER*

A partner who is not a Catholic may not wish to give the same undertaking in which case they are asked to make the following declaration

**I WILLINGLY ALLOW MY CHILD TO BE BAPTISED ACCORDING TO THE RITE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BAPTISM: \_\_\_\_\_

IF THE CHILD IS TO BE BAPTISED IN A PARISH OTHER THAN THAT IN WHICH THE PARENTS RESIDE, THEY MUST OBTAIN THE PERMISSION OF THEIR OWN PARISH PRIEST.

I HEREBY GIVE PERMISSION FOR THE CHILD NAMED ABOVE TO BE BAPTISED OUTSIDE THE PARISH

\_\_\_\_\_ *SIGNATURE of Parish Priest* Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Dear Parents

### You want your Baby Baptised?

Baptism is a very important step to take and it needs to be thought about carefully; it means much more than a ceremony in church and perhaps a party at home afterwards. Being baptised means becoming a Christian - and being a Christian is something that should influence the way you think and talk and your everyday behaviour. Baptism means a lifelong commitment to God. When a baby is baptised the parents undertake to bring up their child to know and to practise their faith and the faith of the church until the child is old enough to gladly make that faith his/her own.

### WHAT IS BAPTISM?

The Sacrament of Baptism is given by pouring water in the name of the three Persons of the Trinity. Jesus told us that unless a man is born again of water and the Holy Spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven. It is through God's action in this Sacrament that we become members of his Church and are adopted into his Family. Water is the symbol of life, and the life that we are given in Baptism is the life of Christ himself. We become new people and with God's help we have to try and live a new kind of life.

### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE PARENTS?

As parents you will have given life to your child, but birth is only a beginning. Your baby still depends on 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. Human beings develop by being trained and the home is the chief training ground; the parents are the child's most important teachers. Parents naturally pass on their language and their culture to their children. Those who gratefully acknowledge the Christian faith as part of their way of life cannot but wish to pass that on too.

### HOW CAN THEY DO THIS?

It is in the home where a child first experiences love and a sense of belonging, where they will also learn about love of God and to talk to God in prayer. They will learn naturally more from the example of the daily lives of their parents than from any formal teaching of the principles and the guidelines of Christian living.

When school-time comes you will find that a Catholic school will help you to continue the education of your child as well as the usual academic skills and crafts. The school will help you prepare your child for the Sacraments and will try to deepen his/her knowledge of the Catholic Faith and the morality that is already part of his/her life.

However, it must be said that the school is no substitute for a family where faith is really lived and practised; a home where there is kindness, honesty and true Christian love; a home that recognises its need for God through prayer, through the HOLY MASS and regular use of the Sacraments. In asking to have your child baptised this is what you are taking on. It is not something to be accepted lightly. Think about it and talk about it to your husband /wife /partner.

Father will be glad to help you answer any difficulties. If after that you are willing to accept the responsibility of trying to bring up your child in the knowledge of and practice of the Catholic faith, then please complete the form overleaf and hand it to Father.

### HOW MUCH DOES IT COST

A donation would be appreciated. Please discuss this with the priest at the time of making your arrangements

Office use: Certificate and book given at Baptism

Date of Baptism: .....

Celebrant: .....

**When you arrange a meeting with Father, please bring the following documents with you:**

**\*Your child/children's birth certificate(s)**

**\*Your own Baptism certificate (at least one parent)**

**\*Evidence of at least one godparent's catholicity eg. Their Baptism certificate or letter of practice from their Parish Priest**