

# St Patrick's Church, Fermoy

## Application for The Sacrament of Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism will be celebrated each week on Saturday at 4.30pm.

Completed forms need to be returned together with a copy of your Child's Birth Certificate to the Parish Office or to one of the priests of the parish at least one week before the date of the Baptism.

Child's Christian Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Civil Birth Certificate Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name & Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date & Place of Marriage: \_\_\_\_\_

**Godparents:** Canon law requires at least one godparent to be chosen for Baptism. To be a Godparent you must be at least 16 years old and be a Roman Catholic who has already received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. If two Godparents are chosen, then one must be male and one female

**Godfathers Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Godmothers Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DECLARATION:** I/We confirm that the above particulars are accurate and we request the Sacrament of Baptism for our child. We/I understand and accept the responsibility of raising our child in the Catholic faith. A copy of our child's birth certificate is enclosed with this request form.

**Mothers Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fathers Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Block Capitals) (Block Capitals)

**Mother's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Father's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Signature of mother alone is sufficient where she is unmarried, is sole guardian and is not requesting that the father's name be entered.*

**Data protection:**

*This form will be held on file, in accordance with the data protection policy of the Diocese of Cloyne. The data entered will be used only for the purpose indicated on the form. It may only be accessed by those with responsibility for managing Parish records.*

*1. Do you give Permission to be contacted about any event organised in the Parish for all children baptised in the previous year?  
Please tick Yes \_\_\_ or no \_\_\_*

**OFFICE USE:** Date of baptism \_\_\_\_\_ Celebrant: \_\_\_\_\_

**Church of Baptism:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Baptism entered in Parish Register:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Parish of Fermoy - Request for Baptism

Congratulations on the birth of your baby. The Parish Community shares in your joy. Thank you for wanting to have your baby join the church family through Baptism.

### 1. Baptismal Application Form – Please Read and complete carefully

**2. Copy of Birth Certificate Required:** Your Child's Birth Certificate must be returned together with the Sacrament of Baptism Application Form, at one month before the requested date of Baptism. Only then will the date be confirmed. The Name(s) of the Child and Parent(s) must be entered on the Baptismal Application Form *exactly as they appear on the Civil Birth Certificate*, since only these names can be entered in the Register of Baptisms. The information in the Parish Register will be retained permanently.

**3. Address of Residence:** If the Child's Parents are normally resident outside Fermoy Parish, the Baptismal Application form must be accompanied by a letter of permission from the Parish Priest of the place where they reside.

**4. Godparents:** In accordance with Church Canon Law, one Sponsor (Godparent) is sufficient, and this person must be a Confirmed and practising Catholic over 16 years of age.

When there are two Sponsors (Godparents), there must be one of each gender (i.e. a Godfather and a Godmother). If one Sponsor (Godparent) is unable to be present, another Adult may stand proxy for that person.

**5. A Stipend:** should be given for use of the Church on the day at your own discretion. Thank you.

## Your Baby's Baptism

**The 5 main Symbols of Baptism** - Catholic Baptism is marked by specific signs and symbols that have a particular meaning for us. These signs and symbols are:

The **Sign of the Cross** is the mark of Christians showing that Jesus died on the Cross for us. At baptism parents and grandparents trace it on the child's forehead to show that the child belongs to Christ, who now offers his help and grace always to face and overcome the sufferings and trials that life may throw at us.

**Water** is for cleansing and is a sign that all our sins are washed away; Our baptism continues with life. Through baptism we belong; through our lives we strengthen our belief. Original sin is not a spot on our soul that has to be scrubbed away but more a truth about what it means to be human – we all try to do our best and do good, but we only have to look around to see this is not always what happens. Baptism gives us the unending strength, joy and comfort that comes from a God who created us in his own image and

likeness and loves us unconditionally. God is ever present to us, ever with us, supporting us and walking our lives with us – even when we are not present to God.

Water is also a symbol of life – without water we couldn't live. It shows us that Jesus is our real source of life. As Jesus is raised from the dead by the Father and given new life, so are we through the waters of baptism, raised to life in Jesus Christ and given life in him.

**Oil of Baptism** which is rubbed on the chest to give us strength; In olden times athletes used to rub themselves with oil to strengthen themselves and prepare themselves for the fight ahead.

**Oil of Chrism**, (also used at Confirmation) Chrism is a perfumed olive oil consecrated by the bishop during Holy Week (Chrism Mass). It is rubbed on the crown or forehead signifying that we are sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We are anointed to bring the good news to others by the way that we live our lives. We are anointed priest, prophet and king just as Christ was.

**Baptismal Candle** reminds us that the light of Christ has entered our lives and the flame symbolizes the flame of faith which should burn throughout our lives. The Light of Christ is passed on to us in the form of a lit candle, which was lit from the Paschal Candle (Easter Candle) that was blessed at the Easter Vigil. We are called to be the light of Christ in the world and we are asked to keep that light burning brightly.

**The White Garment** signifies that the newly baptized has put on Christ and has risen with Christ. It is a sign of new identity and echoes what the early Christian used to do. When they were baptized and came out of the water they were clothed in a white garment to show innocence, new beginning, a new dignity/identity and a new life in the resurrection of Jesus.