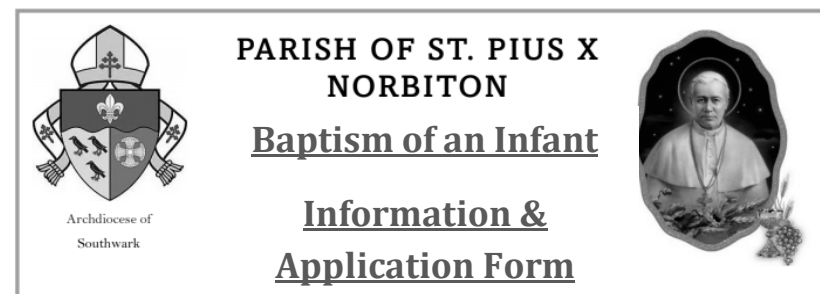


| Godparent 1 | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Name | |
| Date and place of Baptism | |
| Date and place of Confirmation | |
| Godparent 2 | |
| Name | |
| Date and place of Baptism | |
| Date and place of confirmation | |

Please Read I consent to the parish keeping this sheet secure and storing this information in electronic form on a secure computer for use solely by members of the parish team on parish business, and understand that, apart from the official written record in the Church Baptism Register, this data will be deleted at my request

Signed _____ Date _____

Return to
The Presbytery,
108 Orme Road, Kingston KT1 3SB
Phone: 0208 406 9524
email norbiton@rcaos.org.uk



Please read this carefully before completing the form and returning it to the Presbytery at 108 Orme Road.

The Significance of Baptism

Baptism is the first sacrament of Christian initiation (confirmation and Eucharist are the next two). *"Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments"* (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1213). The Lord himself affirmed that Baptism is necessary for Salvation (John 3:5).

The fruits of Baptism include

- Forgiveness of original sin.
- Birth into a new life as a son or daughter of God.
- Becoming a member of Christ ('Christened') – and so receiving a Christian name- and a temple of the Holy Spirit.
- Being incorporated into the Church, the Body of Christ.
- Being made a sharer in the priesthood of Christ.

The importance of Baptising children

From the earliest times the Church has Baptised not only adults but children as well. Jesus Christ said, *"Unless a man is reborn in water and the Holy Spirit he cannot enter the kingdom of God"* (John 3:5). The Church has always understood these words to mean that children should not be deprived of Baptism.

The faith of the parents and godparents

Faith is a requirement to receive a sacrament. In infant Baptism, it is the parents and godparents who supply this faith. For all the Baptised, faith must grow after Baptism. To fulfil the true meaning of the sacrament, children must later be formed in the faith in which they were Baptised. The parents are explicitly asked in the ceremony if they understand, their commitment to bring the child up in the practice of the faith.

Time and place of Baptism

As Baptism is entry into the Catholic Church it normally takes place in church. It can be during Sunday Mass or a separate ceremony. Baptisms do not normally take place in Lent.

The godparents

Each child may have a godfather and a godmother. Their role is to present the child for Baptism together with the parents, and to help them to live a Christian life and grow in holiness towards God. This includes bringing the child to holy Mass on Sundays and Holy days, teaching them to pray and helping them to perform good works.

A godparent must

- Be sixteen years of age or over.
- Be a practicing Catholic who has been Confirmed.
- Not be either the father or mother of the child.

At the Baptism ceremony

Please arrive on time. The Rite begins at the church entrance. After the Gospel reading, Homily and intercessions comes the Anointing before Baptism on the child's breast. The water in the font is then blessed, and the parents and godparents renounce sin and make their profession of faith. The child is Baptised in the font and anointed on the head with the Oil of Chrism. They are then clothed in a White Garment (which you need to bring) and are given a lighted candle.

Non-Catholic Parent

This is not a problem as long as one parent is a Catholic. The non-Christian parent needs to agree that the child be baptised and brought up in the Catholic faith.

The cost

There is no set fee for a Baptism although it's customary to make a donation to the priest. This can be given to him after the ceremony. If you are not a parishioner of St Pius X you will need to obtain a letter from your parish priest granting permission for the baptism to take place here.

Baptism certificate

You will be given a certificate. You can always obtain a copy of the Baptism Register entry by contacting the Parish office (for example when applying for a place at a Catholic school).

Preparation class

Parents (and godparents if they are willing and able) will be asked to attend Baptism Preparation class. As well as being instructed in the meaning of Baptism you will be able to ask any questions, theoretical or practical.



BAPTISM APPLICATION FORM

(detach this side and hand it in)

| | |
|---|--|
| Surname of Child | |
| All Child's First names | |
| Date of birth | |
| Fathers Full Name | |
| Father's Religion* | |
| Mother's full Name | |
| Maiden name | |
| Mother's Religion* | |
| Address | |
| Postcode | |
| Telephone number | |
| Email (Please print clearly) | |
| Preferred Dates (Please give more than one if possible) | |
| • If Christian please be precise | |