

The Sacrament of Baptism Policy

Baptism is not merely a personal event in the life of the person being baptised, nor is it a private family celebration. It is also an important event in the life of the community into which they are being initiated.

Baptism incorporates us into the risen life of Christ, and gives us membership into the faith community. There is mutual responsibility involved: the worshipping community expresses its pastoral responsibility to its members, and the family accept its responsibility by nurturing the faith offered in the sacrament.

The Catholic Mission in Tumut that involve St. Patrick's Gundagai, St. Mary's Batlow, St. James' Adelong and beyond endeavours to provide and celebrate the Sacraments and Pastoral needs for all. It is the call and the duty of the Church to provide for the need of the Parishioners.

Regarding to the Sacrament of Baptism, here are important information for parents as they bring their baby for to the Church for the Baptism in Tumut mission and beyond.

1. There are two steps of the celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism;
 - a. The Enrolment and the Preparation for the Sacrament:
 - The Enrolment is through the Office
 - The preparation: Parents must meet the Priest (and the Sacramental Team) for the preparation. It is an opportunity to prepare and to meet the priest and the team. Both parents are encouraged to attend the preparation
 - b. The Celebration of the Sacrament: There are two parts in the Sacrament of Baptism. Some Churches celebrate this Sacrament in one occasion. However, in Tumut mission, we are celebrating it in two parts within the Weekend Masses. There are two reasons: to allow the community or the Church to meet and to know the family as part of the walking together on the journey. The family also can participate in the Church's liturgy on Sunday. The parts of the Celebration of the Sacrament:
 - The Presentation: this preparation will be on Weekend Mass of the particular Church that family is from or choose (see Mass Times of each Parish Community within this Mission)
 - The Baptism: the following Weekend will be the Baptism.
2. God Parents: they must be Catholic or at least one of them is Catholic and the other one (others) can be from another Christian Denomination. Godparents have a special role to help the parents in their Catholic duties of training their children into faith.
3. The donation for the baptism is \$100.00. For financial issues, it can be discussed with the priest.

Thank you and God bless,

Fr. Joseph Neonbasu
Parish Priest