Baptisms at St Mary’s, Bungendore and
Saints Peter and Paul’s Hoskinstown
general information

**St Mary’s Parish welcomes your family and your new little one to our community.**



*Jesus took a little child and set him by his side and then said to his disciples, ‘Anyone who welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.’* ***Luke 9: 47***

**TIMES:** At **St Mary's Church, Bungendore,** baptisms are usually on the 2nd weekend of the month either during the 8:30am Sunday Mass or afterwards at 10:00am.
At **Sts Peter and Paul's Church, Hoskinstown,** baptisms are usually on the 1st Sunday of the month during the 11:00am Mass.
Please speak to the office if none of these are a suitable time for your family.

**MAKING A BOOKING FOR A BAPTISM:-** You can phone the Bungendore parish office on 6238 1247 between 11am and 5pm on Wednesdays. The **"Request for Baptism"** form can also be downloaded from our parish page on the Archdiocesan website and completed and emailed to St Mary’s Parish bungendore@cg.org.au

**BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION:** The Parish asks that you participate in a preparation session if this is your first child or you have not previously participated in such a session for any other children. When you contact the office to organise a date for the baptism we will help you to arrange this. If possible, we ask that you attend the baptism preparation session at St Gregory’s, Queanbeyan on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00pm. This is in the parish meeting room at 47 Lowe St. St Greg’s phone number is (02) 6299 4611 (9-3:30 Tuesday, Thursday, Friday) or email queanbeyan@cg.org.au.

If this time is not possible for you, we will help you to find another option for baptism preparation.

**GODPARENTS:** You need at least one Godparent but we have space to record up to four in the Parish Register. Godparents' names will appear on the Baptismal Certificate and in the Parish Register. A Godparent needs to: have received the sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation; be at least sixteen years old; and not be one of the parents. Any other validly baptised person is welcome to be a Christian witness.

**TWO NON-CATHOLIC PARENTS:** If neither parent is a Catholic, you will need to speak with the Priest or Deacon before booking a Baptism.

**OLDER CHILD BAPTISM:** If your child is over 6 years old, you will need to speak to the Parish Priest or Deacon for advice on preparing your child to be baptised.

**COVID-19 SAFE PROTOCOLS:** As long as the 1.5m physical distance rule is observed, you will be able to have a maximum of 30 people at a baptism at St Mary’s Church. The priest or deacon celebrating the baptism is not counted in that number but the child being baptised and their family are. Also, we need to keep a contact register of those attending. We can send you a pro-forma for this, and we then keep it in our safe and destroy it after the statutory tracing period of 28 days has expired. If you wish to have more than 30 people at the baptism, you will need to speak to the Parish Priest or Deacon about an alternative venue.

Before the Baptism, all attendees will receive a brief on the COVID-19 Safety Protocols that need to be observed during the service. We ask that you and your guests please observe these for everyone’s safety. If you wish to find out more about COVID-19 or the current NSW Government COVID-19 gathering and movement restrictions applicable to religious services, they may be found at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/what-you-can-and-cant-do-under-rules>.