



St. Kevin's, Templestowe

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Dear Parents,

Thank you for requesting the celebration of Baptism for your child here at St Kevin's Templestowe.

Baptism is a very special moment, for your family and our parish. We hope that this celebration will be one that will be remembered fondly and retold to your child in the years to come.

To assist you as you prepare for your child's Baptism we ask that you attend a Baptism Preparation meeting on the third Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm in the Parish House. We hope that after this meeting you will feel much more at ease with what happens during the Baptism ceremony and that any questions/queries you may have will be answered.

Baptisms at this parish are held on the first weekend of every month and are divided into two parts:

Part 1. We invite you to come to a **Presentation Mass**, where your family will be presented to the parish community. The Presentation Mass is the commencement of the Baptism Sacrament. It is celebrated one week prior to the Baptism Ceremony and you have a choice of two of our weekend Masses – either 5.30pm on Saturday evening or 10.00am on Sunday morning.

Part 2. Then on the following weekend, at either 5.30pm on Saturday, or 10.00am on Sunday, the second part of the Sacrament will be celebrated – the actual **Baptism Ceremony**.

It would be appreciated if you could forward a family photo for us to put on the notice board so that all parishioners are reminded of the newest members to our community.

A Baptismal candle is required for the celebration. These can be purchased from various religious suppliers. Should you wish to decorate your own please feel free to do so. It would be appropriate to decorate it with a cross or other Christian symbols. We suggest that a pillar candle be used as these have a larger and sturdier base for standing.

We look forward to working with you to ensure that your child's Baptism is indeed a special celebration.

With every good wish,

Fr Gerry McKernan
Parish Priest