

Parish of Abbesside, Ballinroad and Garranbane



Congratulations! A New Baby

Dear Parents,

Congratulations on the birth of your baby. We join with your family in thanking God for this gift of new life to you. Thank you for wanting to have your baby baptised and become a member of God's family in the Church. It is always a joyful experience for us to welcome a new Christian into our parish community. By asking for your child's baptism you will be publicly thanking God for his gift to you and in the ceremony itself you will be promising to bring up your child as a follower of Jesus Christ. We want to help you carry out your decision to have your child baptised by giving you our support. To this end, a Baptism Programme is now in operation in our parish. This is simply to provide you with all the information you need to make the ceremony as meaningful and enjoyable as possible. It also highlights the link with the Christian family and how joyful we as a community are at this happy event.

In order to prepare for the ceremony, two members of the Baptism Team will contact you by phone and arrange a time that is convenient for you to meet with them to familiarise you with the ceremony and other details. You might also like to have one or both of the Godparents present when the team visit you.

Know that our prayers are with you in these remaining days before your child's baptism and we look forward to sharing this happy event with you.

Yours sincerely,

Marie O'Mahony
Parish Secretary.



The arrangements for baptism in all our parish churches are as follows:

1. Family contacts the Parish Office during opening hours and arranges the time and Church of baptism in the normal way.
2. The Parish Office confirms the arrangements through a letter of congratulations and welcome from the priest also giving details of preparation.
3. The Baptism Preparation Coordinator then allocates two members of Baptism Team to the family.
4. One of the team contacts the family (usually a week before baptism) to arrange a time to visit the home of the family. The visit is a short one and only to help the parents by going through the ceremony with them and leaving readings, prayers of the faithful, a prayer card for the baby's cot and a family prayer card. There is no other reason for the visit. Arrangements for time and day of baptism are made with the Parish Office and the Priest. The visit should only last 15 minutes and parents might like to have godparents, a relative or friend with them if they so wish. The visit is to reassure the parents about any worries they have concerning the baptism and to tell them about things they might need such as the baptismal candle and shawl (white garment).
5. **Baptism Ceremony.**
One of the Baptism Team will usually be present at the ceremony again as a friendly face to welcome the family on this very special and important day.

Even if a family is applying to have a second or third child baptised, the baptism team will visit the home because it is a new baby who is being welcomed into our Parish Community. We always want to welcome new members with great joy. We ask for your prayers as we begin this new initiative of welcome in our Parish.

Parish of Abbeyside/Ballinroad/Garranbane

Application for Baptism

Please Note: Only data on original civil Birth Certificate is to be filled in this form.

Name of Priest:

If family does not reside in the Parish give reason for choosing this parish for your baptism

Baby's Christian Name(s):

Baby's Surname:

Date of Birth:

Date and Time of Baptism

Father's Name

Religion

Mother's full maiden Name:

Religion

Address:

Date & Place of Marriage

Telephone No's:

Name & Address of Godfather

Religion

Name & Address of Godmother

Religion

Please ensure that the godparents/sponsors are mature enough to make the promises requested of them and that they have received the three sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation. In the case of non Catholics, acting as Christian Witness, they must be of a Christian Denomination.

Baptism in:

Abbeyside Church

Ballinroad Church

Garranbane Church

Please return this form to the Parish Office, Strandside South, Abbeyside, Dungarvan before the date of Baptism together with the ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATE.

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| For Official Use only | B&L System | | Date | | Initial | | |
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