

own faith, or if you are thinking about becoming a Catholic, or are getting married in one of our Churches, please speak to the Parish Office.

What if my child is noisy?

God put the wriggle into children; so do not feel that you have to suppress it in God's house, because all are welcome! If your child makes a noise; please don't worry. After all; making noise is what children do best! Don't feel that you have to leave the Church. Remember, adults are also noisy in Church, and they don't need to leave, so neither should you or your child.

What times are the weekend Masses?

Our weekend Mass times are:

Saturday at 4:30pm in St Oswald's

Sunday at 9:30am in St Oswald's

Sunday at 11:00am in St Sebastian's

Parish Office

Saint Oswald's Presbytery
St Oswald Street; Old Swan

Liverpool; L13 5SB

Phone: 0151 228 3327

Webpage: www.stoandsts.co.uk

Email: stosts@rcaol.org.uk

Office hours

Monday 9:00am — 3:30pm

Tuesday 9:00am — 3:30pm

Office and Presbytery are closed on Wednesday

Thursday 9:00am — 3:30pm

Friday 9:00am — 3:30pm

Baptism in Saint Oswald and Saint Sebastian



“I baptise you, in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit”

Welcome!

Welcome to the Parish of Saint Oswald and Saint Sebastian. It is great that you want to have your child Baptised; passing on your faith to your child is one of the greatest gifts that you can give to them. Baptism welcomes your child into the Christian family, and into the Catholic Church. If you wish to have your child baptised in either one of our Churches, one parent must be a Baptised Catholic (proof will be required), and you must also live within our Church boundaries. As you begin the process of bringing your child to be Baptised, we ask that the family start coming along to one of our weekend Masses on a regular basis, so as to begin to take part in the life of the wider Church Community.

When and how is Baptism celebrated?

Baptisms are normally celebrated on Sunday afternoons, at 12:30pm. Please make sure that you and your guests arrive early, as the service will start on time, and lasts about half an hour. The Baptism Rite is an ancient liturgy; which dates back to the early Church. The minister will guide you through the service; so you and your guests will be able to take part. Throughout the service, there are various signs and symbols used. The main symbol is **Water**, which represents new life. During the Rite, two oils will be used; the **Oil of Catechumen** will be used before Baptism, and the **Oil of Chrism** is used after. Both oils are used to show we are set apart to follow Jesus. We will also use **Light**, in the form of a the Easter and Baptismal Candles, reminding us that Jesus is the light of the world. We will also use a **White Garment** or shawl, to remind us that God's love surrounds us always.

Who should I choose for Godparents?

When children are Baptised within the Church, they are often too young to commit to being Christians, and so the parents promise to bring their child up to know about Jesus; God, and the Catholic faith. Godparents promise to help the parents to carry this duty out in any way they can. This is done mainly by setting a good example for the child, especially in what it means to be a follower Jesus. A Godparent is meant to be a friend, and a support, to help

your child to grow up as a 'Child of God'. Godparents should take an active interest in your child's life, and in particular; their growth in faith. You can ask up to four people to be Godparents for a child. To be a Godparent, they should:

- Be Baptised, and be at least 16 years of age.
- One must be a full member of the Catholic Church (they must have been Baptised, Confirmed, and also received their First Holy Communion)
- If someone is from a different Christian denomination, they should be a fully committed member of their community.

How do I book a date for Baptism?

Before booking any dates, you must come to Mass regularly, and also attend a Baptism Preparation Course. Only when the course is completed are dates for Baptism discussed. Please note: we cannot guarantee that your child will be the only child who will receive Baptism on any given date.

Is there a fee?

There is never a fee charged for the reception of a Sacrament, but all donations towards the upkeep of our Churches are gratefully received. Please help support our Churches as generously as you can, as we do depend on what people donate to us in order to keep our Churches open.

Baptism is only the beginning!

Please think about enrolling your child in one of our three schools, where they will learn more about their faith, and will be educated in a caring and Christian environment. Bring your child to Mass regularly, so that they can grow up knowing that God loves them, and that they are part of the Catholic Christian family. When you bring your child for Baptism, you make a promise to bring them up in the ways of the faith, which includes coming to Mass regularly. Baptism is the start of your child's journey in faith. It is the first of the Sacraments to be received, and we look forward to celebrate the other Sacraments of Initiation with your child in the future. If you would like to learn more about your