

# Our Lady of the Angels Capuchin Franciscan Friars

## Baptism Application



Franciscan Friary  
Carlton Road  
Erith  
Kent DA8 1DN  
01322 433193

Dear Parents,

You have asked to have your baby baptised. Baptism welcomes your child into the Catholic community. Parents of the child to be baptised must be registered and be regular worshipers with us at Our Lady of the Angels. **If you have not been a regular worshipper, we would expect to see you at Mass for a period of 6 months before a baptism date could be agreed. You will be required to supply a copy of your own Baptismal Certificate or a legal affidavit of your catholicity.** If you are not already registered you may wish to see the Parish Priest after Mass at the weekend. If a new family moves to the parish and registers and they are not known by the priest, then a letter of recommendation will be required from their previous parish. Asking to have your child baptised entails you and the Godparents making solemn and profound promises regarding the Christian upbringing of your child. These promises should not be made lightly. Canon 868 No 2 makes provision that there be a realistic hope the child will be brought up in the Catholic religion.

A baptism course of one talk is necessary before the baptism date can be arranged. This talk will explain the various parts of the service, some of the teaching of the Church, and the duties and obligations of parents and Godparents. Godparents play a very important role in your child's spiritual life. They should serve as role models of the faith. The child should be able to look to their godparent as an example of how the church teaches us to live our catholic faith. They should support not only the child but you the parents as well. Additionally in their role as godparents they represent the larger Church community. Being a God parent is not only an honour but a tremendous responsibility. Therefore the godparents should be carefully chosen. In recognizing the importance of the godparents and their duties, the Church has provided guidelines to help parents choose the best possible godparents for their children. As will be explained, the Godparents for your child should be Catholics who will really provide a good example for your child. If at all possible, the Godparents should come with you to the talk. There should only be two Godparents.

**The talk will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, at 3.00 p.m. in the Angelus Centre. The baptisms when arranged will take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at 3.00 p.m.**

The date of the baptisms will be arranged at the talk, or by prior arrangement with Br. Gordon. An offering is expected for your baby's baptism (£25 min.) this should be paid at the baptism talk. **No baptism will be arranged until a copy of your own Baptismal Certificate has been supplied.**

The baptism will be recorded in the permanent records of the parish from the information you provide. As such records cannot be changed please be sure of the accuracy of the information and the spelling of names. A baptism certificate will be given to you following the baptism.

With every blessing for you and your child,

Br. Gordon OFM Cap., Parish Priest