

West Hove Parishes

Baptism Information Form (for Baptism of Children Under the Age of 7)

Child

Name of child				
Date of birth of child				
Gender				
Proposed date of Baptism				
Church (please circle below):				
Sacred Heart (Hove)	St George's (Hangleton)	St Mary Magdalen's (Brighton)	St Peter's (Hove)	St Theresa's (Southwick)

Parents

Mother's name, including maiden name	
Mother's faith/religion*	
Father's name	
Father's faith/religion*	
Are the parents married? *	Yes/no
Address	
Phone number	
Email address	
Any other details about the family it would be helpful to know (write overleaf if necessary)	

This information is to help with an appropriate pastoral response to the family, and to choose appropriate texts for the baptism. The only criteria for baptism of a young child is that one of the parents is a Catholic, and they are willing to bring up the child in the Catholic Church. No other issue of background, such as the marital status of the parents, is an impediment to baptism. This information will not be recorded in the parish database.

Godparents Godparents are normally baptised, confirmed and practicing Catholics. Other baptised Christians may be godparents, provided there is at least one baptised and confirmed Catholic godparent.

The information given overleaf may be stored electronically and used to facilitate the baptism, in accordance with DBRS regulations. Name, date of birth, and address of the child, together with the names of parents and godparents, and the date of the baptism will be recorded in the parish baptismal register. Please sign below to show that you understand and accept this.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

In addition, we would like to record the basic information on this form – names, dates, and contact information – in the parish database. This will be stored securely and used in accordance with DBRS regulations, to provide pastoral care in the parish. It will not be shared with third parties.

Do you agree with this? **Yes / No** (please delete as appropriate).

PARISHES OF WEST HOVE

BAPTISM INFORMATION FORM 2024/2025

Baptism is the first of the seven Sacraments of the Church. It is described in the Catechism of the Catholic Church as “*the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as children of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church, and made sharers in her mission.*” What an extraordinary GIFT of God we receive in Baptism! It is also clear in these words that it can never be a private commitment but always a PUBLIC commitment to following Jesus Christ, as a member of the Church.

For this reason, it is **essential** that parents and godparents are concerned to ensure baptised children are brought up in the *practice of their faith*. This means participating in the life of the parish community, especially in attending Sunday Mass. This is the moment in the week where we gather to celebrate that Christ is Alive and Risen from the dead. Baptism is a sharing in the life of the Risen Lord.

IMPORTANT NOTES - PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING THE BAPTISM FORM:

CHURCH ATTENDANCE: We have an expectation that if a child is to be baptised that their parents are regularly attending Church. This is because you are committing to bringing your child up in the Catholic faith. If you are new to the parish, please introduce yourself to the Priest.

There is no charge for celebrating Baptism. However, a suggested **donation** of £50 can be made to the priest. Guests are also invited, if they wish, to contribute towards the upkeep of the church via a donation basket left at the back of the church, or the contactless device.

We are delighted to welcome new members of the Church through this wonderful Sacrament and look forward to getting to know you and your children as you become involved more in the life of the parish.