

Baptism at St. Luke's

What is Baptism?

Baptism is being made a member of the Body of Christ, represented by his Church here on earth. Baptism is our initiation into the Church of Jesus Christ with all the rights, privileges and duties that this involves.

Who may be baptized?

Baptism is open to all, adult, infant or child, who wishes to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ and is able to make the required vows, or have them made on their behalf. As we are baptized into the Body of Christ, it is expected that the community of believers will be present for all baptisms. Thus, Baptisms will only be held at the public worship service usually on a Sunday.

Certain dates are recommended by the church for Baptismal Festivals. For 2011 these dates will be:

1. The Baptism of Jesus – January 11th, 2011, also the renewal of baptismal vows.
2. Easter Day – April 24, 2011.
3. The Feast of Pentecost – June 12, 2011.
4. During the Octave of All Saints – November 6, 2011.

Baptismal Preparation:

It is expected that all people seeking Baptism at St. Luke's will attend Baptismal Preparation Classes. These classes will be open to all parents, Godparents and Parish Sponsors and will be planned to be convenient for all who are expected to attend.

What are Godparents?

These are folks chosen by the family to make the promises on behalf of their child. Godparents should be baptized members of a church (not necessarily Anglican) and should be chosen with care. Traditionally, a male child will have two males and one female Godparent. A female child will have two women and one man. The number of

Godparents is not a hard and fast rule. It is more important to choose people who will take their responsibilities seriously and able to make the required vows. Godparents are expected to be concerned about the spiritual health of their Godchild and to pray for him or her.

Parish Sponsors:

St. Luke's is in the process of developing Parish Sponsors. These folks will be members of our parish church who will stand with your child, pray for him or her, and help the family feel welcome at St. Luke's

What about a fee?

There is no charge for Baptism. It is hoped that those seeking baptism will make the ongoing support of their parish church part of their Christian lifestyle.

To Sum up:

Baptism starts a lifelong process, helping one lead a Christ-like life. The church promises to provide support and encouragement for this process and will be here to help all members in their search for meaning and purpose in this life. God also promises us the gift of His Holy Spirit at baptism to help us live holy lives.

For further information or to arrange for a baptism, please call the church office at 905-278-1811 or email to stlukes@eol.ca.