BAPTISMAL PROTOCOL

Dear Parents
Thank you for choosing Star of the Sea Parish for the baptism of your child. We are providing some important information for you that will assist you in your preparation.
We are available in the parish office if you have any further questions.

- **BAPTISM DATES**: The Sacrament of Baptism is held at 10:00 on the second and fourth Sunday of each month.

- **PUNCTUALITY:** Often there are 3 or 4 baptisms each Sunday. It is important to be in the church precincts by 9:45am. The baptismal service begins at 10:00 in respect to the other couples involved.

- **BOOK EARLY**: Father Krupa Bonagiri has requested that the number of baptisms each Sunday be restricted. So it is important to register early.

- **CRITERIA FOR BAPTISM**: There is a requirement that at least one parent be Catholic.

- **DOCUMENTS:** Please provide a copy of your child's Birth Certificate and a copy of parents and Godparents Baptismal Certificate.

- **GODPARENTS:** The role of the godparent is to support the parents in enabling the child to grow in the knowledge and love of God. There is a requirement that at least one godparent be Catholic. If necessary, you might have a second godparent who is not Catholic if he/she is baptised in their own Christian faith. Please note that according to Canon Law each child should not have more than 2 godparents.
  All godparents must be 16 years old or over.

- **DONATION:** There is a suggested Baptismal donation of $100 payable at registration (this includes parish administration/resources and priest donation).

- **PRESENTATION OF THE CHILD:** There is a requirement for the child to be presented to our Catholic community. We ask for the family to attend the first Sunday of the month 8.30am Mass. At the offertory time, Father Krupa introduces the family to the parish community, he tells everyone about the pending baptism. Father Krupa gives the child a blessing. Then, a member of the community is asked to come forward and to make a sign of the cross on the forehead of the child signifying the community's acceptance. Usually, there is a very supportive response from the entire church.

- **BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASS:** Attendance at the class is a mandatory requirement. The class is held on the first Sunday of the month and begins immediately after the 8:30 Sunday Mass. The class venue is in the meeting room in the parish hall precinct. Reservations need to be made for each class.

Parish Office contact details:
Ph: 07 3821 4902
Email: Cleveland@bne.catholic.net.au