



CHRIST THE KING PARISH

SAINT AGNES CHURCH
SAINT ATHANASIUS CHURCH

184 WOBURN STREET
READING, MA 01867
781-944-0490

DEAR FAMILY,

Congratulations on the arrival of your child into your family! Christ the King Parish is blessed to share in your joy as you baptize your child into the Catholic faith. At baptism, with the support of godparents and the parish community, your child enters a community of people dedicated to living lives inspired by Christ and His Church.

Having your child baptized expresses your commitment to raise your child in the Christian faith. Your faith also needs to be strengthened and developed as your child grows. We are delighted to partner with and support your family as your child enters new life in Christ, beginning at baptism.

To learn more about baptism at Christ the King Parish, visit the [baptism page](#) on our website. We've also included a list of frequently asked questions on the next page. Feel free to call the office with any other questions or concerns and we'll be happy to help you.

We invite you to participate in the life of our parish! Maybe you'd like to join our group of [Young & Growing Families](#) to connect with other families living out our faith, or perhaps you'd like to volunteer with [one of our vibrant ministries](#). There are many ways to get involved at Christ the King. To find a group or ministry that is right for you, visit our website, call the office, or talk with a priest after Mass.

Resources for Baptism

- We encourage you to watch the short series [Reborn: You, Your Child and The Heart of Baptism](#) on Formed.org. You can sign up for a free Formed account by following [these directions](#).
- Check out the Archdiocese of Boston [Baptism web page](#) and their [Guidelines](#) for Choosing Sponsors/Godparents.
- Learn detailed information about the history, theology, and symbolism of baptism with [The Ultimate Guide to Catholic Baptism](#).
- Take a moment of prayer to remember your baptism with this [Guided Reflection](#) on Our Baptismal Promises.

UNITED IN FAITH,

Christ the King Parish

"Baptism is the source of that new life in Christ from which the entire Christian life springs forth."

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, PARAGRAPH 1254



CHRIST THE KING PARISH

SAINT AGNES CHURCH
SAINT ATHANASIUS CHURCH

184 WOBURN STREET
READING, MA 01867
781-944-0490

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I take pictures and videos during the ceremony?

A: Photography and videotaping are allowed as a means to capture the memory of this special day. Please respect the sacred nature of the baptism by limiting distractions like flash and sound.

Q: Does my child need to wear white?

A: Many children do wear traditional Christening garments; however, you may dress your child as you would like. A simple white garment will be provided by the church for the ceremony--handmade by loving parishioners.

Q: What else is required before the baptism?

A: If this is your first child to be baptized in the Catholic Church, you must attend a baptism preparation class before the baptism. The preparation class is also referred to as a parent meeting. Additionally, you are asked to attend a parent meeting if it has been longer than three years since you've had a child baptized. The baptism coordinator will discuss upcoming class dates with you, or you can call the parish office to register.

Q: Is there a fee for a baptism?

A: There is no fee; however many families wish to offer a donation on the occasion of their child's baptism. This may be mailed to the office, sent on [WeShare](#) or [Venmo](#), or given to the clergy on the day of the baptism.

Q: How long is the 1:00 PM Baptism Service?

A: Depending on the number of persons being baptized (maximum of 6 babies), the service typically lasts about 45 minutes to an hour.

Q: What do I need if I am not married?

A: A birth certificate of the person to be baptized is required by Massachusetts state law. Please submit to the parish office prior to the baptismal date.

Q: Are people of different faiths welcome?

A: Yes, this is a celebration for you and your family. Everyone is welcome.

Q: What if a godparent can't be present at the baptismal ceremony?

A: A family member or friend can stand in at the ceremony as a proxy for the absent godparent, but the godparent's name will appear in the official baptismal record.