

The Gift of a Child

Marian Wright Edelman (adapted)

Dear God, we thank You for the gift of (name) our child,
to raise,
this life to share,
this mind to help mould,
this body to nurture,
and this spirit to enrich.

Let us never betray (Name), our child's, trust,
dampen (Name)'s hope,
or discourage (Name)'s dreams.

Help us, dear God,
to help our precious child become all you mean (Name) to be.
Let your grace and love fall on (Name) like gentle breezes
and give (Name) inner strength and peace and patience for the
journey ahead.



Inchicore - Bluebell Pastoral Area

Mary Immaculate Parish

Having Your Baby Baptised



Welcome

Dear Parents

Congratulations on the birth of your child. The Church community shares your joy.

Baptism is an important event both you and your child. It is also a day of celebration and joy for your family, friends and for the Church community. We are happy to welcome your new baby into the Christian family.

Here are the best steps to have your child baptized.

- ◆ **Fill out the Infant Baptism Application form enclosed.**
- ◆ **If you live outside the Inchicore-Bluebell area please provide a letter from your Parish Priest giving permission for your child to be baptised outside your own parish.**
- ◆ **Please return the enclosed Baptism Application form to our parish office.**

What happens next?

- ◆ **You will be contacted by a member of our Baptism Team to arrange a meeting in preparation for Baptism.**
- ◆ **The Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held in the House of Retreat, (Big House beside Mary Immaculate Church), Tyrconnell Road Inchicore. The meeting will be at a time that suits you both, and godparents are encouraged to attend.**

- ◆ **There will be a special ‘Welcome Ceremony’ at a Sunday mass before your child’s baptism, where you and your child will be welcomed into the parish community. The Baptism Ceremony will take place over two Sundays.**

Godparents

- ◆ **You are asked to choose godparents who will be a good influence for your child.**

What are the requirements for being a Godparent?

A Godparent must:

- **be Catholic (at least one of the godparents)**
- **be over 16 years of age**
- **be a practising Catholic who has been Confirmed**

There is no charge for Baptism.

However, the parish does have a lot of expenses. Upkeep of the church, lighting, heating, printing, and secretarial expenses.

Parents too have a lot of expenses especially with the arrival of a new member of the family.

To share the burden, and not place it on parents’ shoulders a basket will be left out and at the end of the baptism and there will be an invitation to all to give a donation if they so wish.