

ST MARY'S PARISH ECHUCA

224-230 Anstruther Street

Echuca Vic. 3564

P: 0354 821127

E: admin@stmarysechuca.org.au

Dear

It is with great pleasure that we offer the sacrament of Baptism to your child and together with our parish community welcomes them to St. Mary's Church, Echuca.

Baptisms are held on the second weekend of the month with a welcome through Mass and the Baptism to either take place during Mass or following at 11am. Our Parish Priest Fr. Des Welladsen prefers the baptism to be celebrated during the Mass. Dates and times need to be negotiated with the Parish Office. You are very welcome to attend Mass prior to your child's Baptism, as this may give you some familiarity with the ceremony.

At the Welcoming Ceremony the child who will be baptised is introduced to the Parish Community. Again, dates and times are to be negotiated with the Parish Office. Our mass times are 6.00pm Saturday, 8.00am and 10.00am Sunday.

All families need to attend our Baptism Preparation program. The Preparation Programs are held on the first Wednesday of every month. Please advise the office if you will be attending the meeting. The meetings are normally held at St. Mary's Parish Centre 224-230 Anstruther Street, Echuca. Sessions run from 7.15pm – 8pm and you are encouraged to bring the child who will be baptised. The purpose of the Baptism Preparation Program is to familiarise families with the Sacrament of Baptism and the ceremony of baptism as well as welcoming families into our Parish.

A discretionary offering to the church – of around \$50.00 – assists the church to supply items such as candles, stoles and oils. If you are already contributing as a part of our Stewardship Program a donation would be appreciated. Should this cause you any difficulties, please discuss this with our Parish Administrator or Fr. Des.

Again we thank you for choosing St. Mary's Parish as the Catholic Church in which to baptise your child. We wish you a very warm welcome and we look forward to a long and fulfilling relationship with you and your family.

Should you have any further questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact the St. Mary's Parish Office on (03) 5482 1127.

Yours sincerely

The Baptism Preparation Team