



*Parish of Pope St John XXIII
The joint parish of
St Mary's of the Annunciation, Littleborough
and St Patrick's, Rochdale*

29th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

In recent years, there have been increasing numbers of requests from parents for their children to be baptised so that they can join their friends in receiving their First Holy Communion in Year 3. Leaving baptism until Year 3 can make this a very hurried year for parents and children

If your child is currently in Reception or Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2) and you are planning to have them baptised so that they can receive the Holy Communion in Year 3, or are in Key Stage 2 (Years 3 – 6) and are hoping to receive Holy Communion this year, we are offering the opportunity to join Baptismal classes in October and November 2025.

Should you wish to have your child/children baptised, **you must contact our Parish Secretary**, Derek Conway, on 01706 644412, Monday – Wednesday between 8.30am and 2.00pm or 01706 378261 Thursday 9.00am – 12.30pm. Alternatively, you can email the parish office on saintpatrickrochdale@hotmail.com. Once we have your details you will be contacted by our Sacramental Co-ordinator, Mrs Monica Walczak, who will send you details of the classes, which will take place on a Sunday morning, after the 9.30am Mass. Both parent and child will be expected to attend these classes.

Children currently in Year 3 must be baptised by 13th December 2025 to join the Sacramental programme. Baptismal classes will begin on Sunday 12th October and parents and children will be expected to attend 4 sessions; 12th & 19th October and 2nd & 9th November. This will allow at least four Saturday's for families to arrange a date for their child's baptism.

Wishing you the peace of Christ,

Fr Robert Lasia
Parish Priest