

The Pontop Partnership is part of the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, and is made up of the following Churches:

Church	Mass Time
St Teresa, Annfield Plain	4.30pm Saturday
St Mary, Blackhill	9.15am Sunday
Our Lady and St Joseph, Brooms	5.30pm Saturday
St Patrick, Consett	9.15am Sunday
St Patrick, Dipton	9.00am Sunday
St Joseph, Stanley	11.00am Sunday
All Saints, Lanchester	9.00am Sunday
St Pius X, Moorside	11.15am Sunday
Our Lady of the Rosary, Shotley Bridge	5.30pm Sunday



The information you have provided on this form will be stored and used by the Parish in which the baptism will take place and the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle for purposes relating to administering the Sacrament of Baptism. Some of the information that you provide on this form will be entered into the Baptism Register and stored indefinitely and securely in accordance with the laws and procedures of the Roman Catholic faith for future sacramental and archival purposes.

Details of how we process your data, and your rights, are included in the Diocesan Privacy Notice which can be accessed at <https://diocesehn.org.uk/privacy-policy/> or by request from the parish.

GETTING YOUR CHILD BAPTISED IN PONTOP PARTNERSHIP

“You have asked to have your child baptised. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training them in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring them up to keep Christ’s commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbour. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?”



Rite of Baptism

Baptism is all about belonging - belonging to the family of God and being a part of Jesus Christ. Whether it is a new-born baby, or someone much older who decides to join the family of the Church, Baptism or Christening changes us, making us members of Jesus Christ in the Catholic Church.

Baptism is not just a matter of "getting the baby done"! Nor is it just about a family celebration or getting a place in a Catholic School. Baptism is a SACRAMENT - a meeting with God, a moment when God's power touches and changes the one being baptised, making them a new creation, a child of God and a member of the Church. For this reason, it is a serious decision for parents to make, since they promise before God and the Church to bring their child up in the faith they are choosing for them. Parents will be expected to show some commitment to the Catholic Faith, and a willingness to deepen and develop their own practice. For this reason, there is a 'journey' of preparation – it is not about booking a date and turning up. For more information read on

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No one buys a house without a lot of thought and reflection - and the same is true for buying a new car or applying for a new job! Similarly entering into a relationship, getting married, having children - these represent major commitments in our lives, and so we do not take them lightly. How much more thought and reflection should there be in choosing a religion for our child! Baptism is not a "one-day" thing - it is about a life choice. Think for a moment about choosing a religion for yourself: you would be very aware of the consequences for your daily life. Now think the same thoughts for your child – realising that you will be responsible for your child's religion for the next few years!

In the spirit of belonging, the Catholic community wants to know you and accompany you in raising your child in the Catholic faith, for this reason we require a period of ‘getting to know you’ and your child. We require that over a period of two months we see you regularly joining the parish community for the Sunday Eucharist, we can then begin preparing you for the baptism of your child.

If your child is over 6 years old the process is slightly different. Please contact your parish priest for more information.

Having said that, the requirements for a child being baptised in the Catholic Church are fairly straightforward:

- ◆ At least one parent and one godparent must be a baptised Roman Catholic.
- ◆ You must be willing to bring up your child in the practice of the Catholic faith.
- ◆ You must live in our parish.

To arrange a baptism please see your Parish Priest after Mass. A baptismal certificate for one of the parents must be provided as evidence of baptism in a Roman Catholic Church before a baptism preparation date can be given.

We welcome parents and children by attending Mass on Saturday evening or on a Sunday. You can meet your priest and fulfil the Sunday obligation to participate in the Mass. This is not an option – all Catholics are obliged to celebrate Mass on Sundays.

Before you are invited to a Baptism Preparation course you will need to provide evidence of your regular attendance at Mass.

PLEASE KEEP THIS PART OF THE FORM

PLEASE DETACH THIS FORM AND HAND TO THE PRIEST

APPLICATION FORM

Childs Name:

Child’s date of Birth:

Mother’s Name:

Father’s Name:
Please indicate with a star which parents are Baptised Catholics.

Present Address:

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Telephone Number:

Email Address:

Which Church do you attend?

Names of Godparents (one of whom must be a practicing Catholic, please indicate with a star which ones)

1.

2.

Signed

Date:

*Once you have completed your form you will be contacted
by a member of the parish team.*