Introducing the Rite of Welcome Before Baptism



Over the coming months, you may notice families with young children being called forward briefly at one of our Sunday Masses for a Rite of Welcome. Because baptisms at Holy Cross and Canadian Martyrs are ordinarily celebrated outside of Sunday Mass, this rite gives the parish community an opportunity to welcome families who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Rite of Welcome reminds us that Baptism is not a private family event but a celebration of the entire Church. Through it, a child is welcomed into the Christian community and entrusted to the care, support, and prayers of the faithful. Families preparing for Baptism will normally participate in this rite one or two weeks before the Baptism ceremony. We ask all parishioners to keep these children, their parents, and godparents in your prayers as they prepare to celebrate this important sacrament.