

No one can be baptized a Roman Catholic, a Southern Baptist, a Lutheran, etc. This is a theological impossibility. It is only possible to be baptized as a Christian.

If you were baptized as a child or at some other time in your life when you lacked a full understanding and experience of a relationship of God through Jesus Christ, it does not in any way make the baptism invalid. The baptism is fully valid. However, you may feel the need to publicly demonstrate your new or adult commitment to Jesus. At All Saints' the service through which this is done is the service of confirmation in which you will confirm your (or your parents') baptismal vows and your faith in Jesus Christ.

What about infant baptism?

Many Christian churches baptize infants; others do not. There are valid arguments for doing it either way. At All Saints' Church we allow the parents of young children to decide whether to baptize their children at a young age or not. Some wish to baptize their babies as soon as possible. Others wish to allow their children to grow to an age at which they can recognize Christ's saving work on the Cross for them and can make an informed believing response to Jesus' call to receive Him into their hearts.

Regardless of the age at which a child is baptized, it must be understood that the parents and sponsors (godparents) of those who bring the child to be baptized are making a very serious commitment to raise their child in the Christian faith and life. That must necessarily mean regular attendance at church

and Sunday School for both parents and children, participation in other education opportunities offered through the life of the church, and an active family home devotional life as parents and children grow in faith. All Saints' offers many tools and can offer personal guidance to you to assist you and your family in their Christian growth.

When does baptism take place at All Saints'?

The service of baptism takes place at All Saints' five times throughout the year: on or near Pentecost (late May/early June), on or near All Saints' Day (a Sunday close to November 1st), on or near the Baptism of Our Lord (a Sunday in January or early February), on Easter Eve (the Saturday night before Easter Sunday), and on one other Sunday, normally in the late summer.

Baptism can take place during any of our three Sunday services on any of these dates and is scheduled through consultation with the church staff. The dates of Baptism are always clearly announced well in advance in the church newsletters and bulletins.

If you or a member of your family is interested in Baptism, fill out the form on the inside of this brochure and mail or bring it to the church office or place it in the offering plate on Sunday. You may also call the church office if you have questions or need further information.

Baptism At All Saints'



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What is Holy Baptism?

Baptism is the service of the Christian church in which we make and/or confirm our commitment to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

What does baptism mean?

At All Saints’ Church, in the service of baptism, water is poured onto the head of the person being baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. (In some traditions the person being baptized is lowered down into a pool of water and then drawn up again out of the waters.) In either case, the waters of baptism are a beautiful picture of our participation by faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. (“...all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death...in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead...we too may live a new life.” Romans 6:3-4)

Baptism is our response to an experience of God’s call to enter into a relationship with Him. It is our recognition that we personally need to receive God’s forgiveness for sin, both general (“All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.” Romans 3:23) and specific. It is also our recognition that Christ’s saving death on the Cross through His shed blood is the only solution to the problem of our sin. Baptism means that we personally and individually accept what Christ has done for us as a free gift; it is our full understanding that we cannot earn God’s forgiveness; we can only receive it.

What does baptism do?

Baptism is a total commitment that brings us into intimate union and fellowship with Christ Jesus.

It symbolizes that relationship and it brings it about through the power and presence of God in and through the service of baptism.

In addition, baptism brings us into relationship with other baptized Christians who are sons and daughters of God in fellowship with Him through Jesus Christ. Through baptism we are now called to participate together in the

Church to tell others about the saving work of Jesus.

Can I be baptized more than once?

As an Episcopal Church, All Saints’ recognizes all baptisms in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit through the pouring on or immersing in water as valid baptisms.

If you are interested in Baptism, please complete and return this form to the church office.

Please Print:

Full Name of Candidate _____

Sex _____ Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____

Father’s Full Name _____ Baptized? ____ Date _____

Mother’s Full Name _____ Baptized? ____ Date _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Sponsor/Godparent(s):

Name(s)	Are they Baptized? <small>(Sponsors/Godparents must be baptized though they need not be Episcopalians)</small>
_____	_____
_____	_____

After the baptism you will receive in the mail a Baptismal Certificate as well as a certificate for the sponsor(s). Please be sure to give your sponsor(s) their certificate(s).