

Baptism Preparation Team

The goals of the Baptism Preparation Ministry are:

- 1) to welcome the parents, making sure that they feel part of our fast-growing faith community, and
- 2) to help the parents realize the commitment they are making to raise their child in the faith when they make the request for their child to be baptized.

To meet the **first goal**, a personal interview is held with the parents seeking Baptism. If it is convenient, the Baptism Team member will meet the parents at their home. The idea is to have personal contact, get to know each other, and discuss the preparation process.



To meet the **second goal**, the next part of the process is to **meet with Deacon Al and Bonnie Hinger** for a “Church Walk”. This is a chance for the parents to literally walk around the Church and to ask questions about our faith. In this way they can renew and find more joy in their faith.

The next step is to **attend a preparation class** on a Tuesday night from 7:30 to 9 pm with other parents. The presenters will discuss:

- 1) the actual ceremony of Baptism,
- 2) the responsibilities of making the request for Baptism, and
- 3) helpful hints about raising children in the Catholic faith.

Due to the large number of requests for Baptism, there are **special Sunday afternoons designated** regularly throughout the year for approximately 5-7 families to celebrate Baptism together. As well, there are some Baptisms celebrated **during Mass** at special times of the Church year.

For questions about volunteering on the **Baptism Prep Team**, contact Ken Hagel by email KHagel@stmaryscochrane.ca or by phone at the Parish Office 403-932-2944.