

**St. Aloysius Church**  
**BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS**



**Why Baptism?**

Baptism defined: Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission: "Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word." (From the Catechism of the Catholic Church)

- Baptism is an act of initiation, an introduction to truly Christian life.
- Baptism is seen to be the cleansing from all sin (Original Sin and personal sin).
- Baptism brings inner renewal and sanctification (sanctifying grace).
- Baptism allows us to enter into a covenant relationship with God and the faith community. Reception into the community of salvation involves a particular parish; beyond this a reception into the Church of the Diocese with a Bishop; and beyond this a membership into the whole Church. Baptism, then, creates brotherhood and sisterhood between all believers.
- For the Christian of today, Baptism is the entrance to all the sacraments, the gate to Christian life and eventual eternal life. It is here that we see the consequence of Baptism.