

St Blasius Old Parish Church Shanklin

Baptism (Christening) at St Blasius' Church

Dear Applicants,

Thank you very much for your enquiry about having your child Baptised at St Blasius' Church Shanklin. This paper sets out the current position regarding eligibility for Baptism here.

The national policy of the Church of England is that Baptism should normally take place during a main Sunday Service, and that children should normally be baptised at the Parish Church of the parish in which they live.

This means that if you reside within the **parish of Shanklin St Blasius** then you are eligible and very welcome to have your child baptised at St Blasius' Church. Baptisms normally take place during the 10.15 service on Sunday mornings, although it is sometimes possible for us to make other arrangements.

If, however, you do not reside within the parish of Shanklin St Blasius then you are not, strictly speaking, eligible to have your child baptised at St Blasius', but it may still be possible if you have had a past connection with the church. For example, it might be that you were married at St Blasius', or that you were baptised there, or that you grew up in the parish and, although you no longer live there yourself, your parents still do so. In such circumstances, we may be able to hold your child's Baptism at St Blasius', but since children should normally be baptised in the parish in which they live we would have to discuss the matter together and then, if it seems appropriate for the baptism to take place at St Blasius', we would seek the agreement of the Vicar of your own parish to these arrangements.

Godparents

Church law requires that Godparents should be baptised and confirmed, although 'the requirement of confirmation can be relaxed in certain cases'. It would be very helpful therefore if parents could please check that their child's prospective Godparents have been baptised before inviting them to undertake this important role.

If a Certificate of Baptism is required there is a charge of £13.

Please e-mail or phone the Revd. Tony Richards Local Minister of St. Blasius' Church to make arrangements for your child's baptism or to discuss any questions that you may have.

Thank you very much.

THE PARISH OF SHANKLIN St BLASIUS

The parish is fairly small and covers part of Shanklin.

It is contained within these boundaries:

(West) Hungerberry Close and part of Windsor Drive and Victoria Avenue east of East Mead

(South) Part of Cowleaze Hill and part of Lucombe Road

(East) Chine Avenue (southern side) and Everton Lane (southern side)

(North) Garfield Road and part of Brook Road

- To identify whether you live in the parish of Shanklin St. Blasius please see the official parish boundary map: <http://www.achurchnearyou.com>
- Zoom into this map ('+' sign) to view the street name where you live – if it is within the red shaded area, then you are in the the parish of Shanklin St. Blasius.

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CONTACTS

Queries relating to: Baptisms. Should be addressed to:

Revd. Jonathan Hall, Priest in Charge

Tel: 01983 402480

email: rev.jonathanhall@btinternet.com

Churchwardens:

Mr Robert Crawley

01983 868436

Mr Brian Hardy-Bishop

01983 866303