



## **Baptism Informational Document**

The Rev. Sandra Rogers (Rev. Sandy or Mother Sandy)  
sandy@reslargo.org  
727\*586\*6968 (church office)

### ***What is baptism?***

According to the catechism (outline of faith) in our Book of Common Prayer, “Holy Baptism is the sacrament by which God adopts us as his children and makes us members of Christ’s Body, the Church, and inheritors of the kingdom of God” (BCP,858).

In other words, when we are baptized, we are welcomed into the household of God. It means we renounce evil, promise to live our lives walking on the Christian journey, being marked as Christ’s own forever. If the baptismal candidate is an infant or small child, parents and godparents make promises on their behalf. If the candidate is older, they may make the promises on their own without the need of godparents (but they may have sponsors to support them in this journey).

Baptism involves the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, calling us to life in Christ and to all that it means to be a baptized person - following the life and example of Jesus especially.

More on the promises and renunciations made in baptism, see “Holy Baptism” starting on page 299 of the Book of Common Prayer. If you have further questions, just ask!

### ***What do you need to do to be baptized or have your child baptized?***

Either parents of the baptismal candidate or the candidate themselves (if they are older) will meet with Mother Sandy to ensure sponsors and/or Godparents be prepared by instructing both the parents and the Godparents concerning the significance of Holy Baptism, the responsibilities of parents and Godparents for the Christian training of the baptized child, and how these obligations may properly be discharged. and then you will work with Mother Sandy on arranging a date for the service.

Baptisms are traditionally performed on four feast days throughout the Church year: the first Sunday after Epiphany, the evening before Easter Day, on the Feast of Pentecost, and All Saints’ Sunday. The calendar dates for those feast days will vary year to year, but generally occur in early January, March or April, May or early June, and the first Sunday of November. Those wishing to baptize a child, or be baptized themselves, must speak to the vicar to discuss preparation and scheduling.



## ***What happens after baptism?***

So, you're baptized. Congratulations! Now what? Take time to carefully discern how you might live out your new life of faith (or be caretakers raising a little one in a life of faith). Resurrection is here to support you! Mother Sandy and the congregation want to see you thrive in your life in Christ. Please reach out if you have any questions! In our baptism liturgy (the service found in the Book of Common Prayer) the congregation also makes promises to support the baptismal candidate in their walk with Christ. We want to take that seriously!