

# **Receiving the Sacraments in the Catholic Churches of All Saints and St. Mary Crowned Glossop**

## **Infant Baptism**

Parents presenting children for baptism must be parishioners of either All Saints or St. Mary's Glossop, attending Mass regularly in one or other of the churches.

At least one parent should be Catholic.

If you live and worship in other parishes, please do not make contact until you have first spoken to your own parish priest and obtained written consent from him for the baptism to take place in Glossop.

Pre-Baptismal Courses take place regularly throughout the year, normally once every two months. The date of the next course can be found on the parish newsletter. Each course consists of two sessions, and parents should attend both of them. Parents are requested not to bring children to the Preparation course.

## **Who can be Godparents?**

The Catholic Church has specific rules regarding who can undertake the duties of Sponsor (Godparent). Parents should make sure that they only invite people to become Sponsors if they are able to comply with these rules:

- One sponsor (godparent) is sufficient, but there may be two, one of each sex (Canon 873)
- Sponsors must be aged 16 or above and be Catholics who have been confirmed and have received Holy Communion. (Canon 874)
- A baptised non-Catholic may stand as a witness, but only in addition to a Catholic sponsor. (Canon 874).

This means that a child must have at least one Catholic sponsor who is baptised, confirmed and has made their First Holy Communion in the Roman Catholic Church. A baptised member of another Christian Church may stand as a witness. A person who has not been baptised cannot be a witness.

## **First Reconciliation / Communion**

Candidates for First Reconciliation must be baptised Catholic children living in either All Saints or St. Mary's parishes and are expected to attend the course on either Tuesday or Thursday of each week and also come to Sunday Mass in either St. Mary's or All Saints with their families and take part in the Sunday classes. The date for First Reconciliation and First Communion is fixed in January of each year, and details of the Preparation Course are published in the parish newsletter. For more details, please contact All Saints School (852756) or St. Mary's School (854473) or the Parish Priest (852113)

## **Confirmation**

Confirmation in the High Peak Deanery takes place once a year, and is administered in one of the parish churches of the Deanery on a rota basis.

Candidates must be aged 12+ at the date of the Confirmation, having already been baptised and having received their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. They should attend Mass regularly in one or other of the Glossop Catholic churches. The date of Confirmation is announced in January of each year, and Registration takes place at that time. Dates for the Preparation Course are given out at the same time.

## **Marriage**

Marriage is a lifelong vocation of a man and a woman to a community of life and love open to children, and – between the baptised – it is a Sacrament. Aware of the many pressures today which can endanger family life, the Church is constantly concerned to make sure that those of you planning to marry are prepared as well as possible. We would like to remind those who wish to marry of the following:

1. It is important that a couple go to see their priest in good time before the wedding – normally at least six months notice should be given.
2. Marriage preparation is carried out by the priest, often assisted by a group from the Parish. Courses arranged by Catholic Marriage Care and by Engaged Encounter are recommended. Natural family planning training is also available.

3. Catholics are reminded of their obligation to preserve their faith and to do all they can within the unity of their partnership to have all the children baptised and brought up as Catholics.
4. Non-Catholic partners will be informed of this promise but are not asked to make any similar promise.
5. Dispensation for a marriage between a Catholic and a baptized non-Catholic to take place outside the Catholic Church can only be granted where there is a serious reason and the permission for marriage has been granted.

All couples marrying today need the support of the local Church. In this way they will be strengthened in the preparation, celebration, and living out of their covenant with one another. We wish to thank all those married people who show such constancy and fidelity to their vocation of marriage. May their example inspire those planning to marry in the Church.

For more details, please contact the Parish Priest (852113)