



**St Mary Help of Christians
Catholic Church
Old Coulsdon**

Baptism

Those who wish to have their baby baptised should complete an application form which can be found in the porch of the church and return it to Fr Gerard. Baptisms are usually celebrated on a Sunday or a Saturday by negotiation with the parish priest. On occasions a baby may be baptised during the celebration of Holy Mass.

Children should be baptised within the first few weeks of of life and there should be a reasonable hope that the baby will be brought up to know Jesus Christ and to practise their Faith as best possible. There are no formal instruction classes for infant baptism in this parish but couples can expect the parish priest to visit them and give them some idea about the ceremony and its contents and the duties of Christian parents.

Godparents:

At least one godparent is necessary for baptism and must be a practising catholic. Other practising Christians may also be invited to stand as a Christian witness in the ceremony.