

# The Rite of Baptism at St.Peters

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Baptism is full initiation by water and the spirit into Christ's Body, the church. It is also an occasion for the whole church to renew its baptismal promises, as well as to pledge its support for each of the newly baptized. Therefore, baptisms ordinarily occur during one of the Sunday morning services.

The Book of Common Prayer calls for baptisms to occur on four specific times in the church year: All Saints Day, The Feast of Our Lord's Baptism, Easter of the Easter Vigil, and Pentecost.

In order to provide families more flexibility in scheduling, and yet not end up with baptisms every Sunday, the following is our scheduling policy.

- Baptisms may be scheduled at 7:45 AM or 11:15 AM services with the permission of the rector, with the provision that there be only one Sunday per month so scheduled for each of the above services.
- In months other than the four times recommended above, a baptism may be scheduled at the 9 AM service on a first come first serve basis, with the provision that there be only one Sunday per month so scheduled.
- That means that any subsequent families that want to have a baptism in that month must be scheduled on the date already arranged.
- Ordinarily those seeking to be baptized in this church will be members of the church. When planning a baptism the rector must be contacted, and the required pre-baptismal instruction for parents and Godparents arranged.