

The Sacrament of Baptism



Baptism is when we become part of God's family – we are called the children of God.

In Baptism we are washed free from original sin, the sin we are all born in to, and begin a new life in Christ.

Parents who present their child for Baptism are then entrusted to pass on the faith and at the appropriate time present them to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation.

Our admissions policy at St Bernadette's reflects that as a Catholic school, children from the Catholic faith, who have been Baptised Catholic, will be offered places above those non-Catholic children. Parents will be asked for a copy of the Baptismal certificate upon application.

The sacrament of Reconciliation



The sacrament of Reconciliation is received by baptised Catholic children in Year 3.

Year 3 take another step along their Faith Journey, by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a chance to say sorry to God for the things they have done that have hurt God, others and themselves. When God created man, in his image and likeness, he knew we would make wrong choices so he gave us the gift of Reconciliation so that we have the opportunity to put our wrongs, right and grow closer, to God; following in his ways.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion



Children in Year 3 receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

The children prepare thoroughly for this Sacrament. The preparation takes place in church and is led by the Catechistic team. Correspondence is sent out from the parish and the newsletter alerts families to the preparation time. School also sends out correspondence to the Year 3 parents on behalf of the parish. Throughout COVID, it was extremely difficult for families to meet in church. Father Peter was able to come into school and deliver the lessons in school. The children are also supported with the Sacrament within their RE lessons.

The children receive their first Holy Communion during the summer term on a Saturday afternoon. This Sacrament is celebrated by the school and parish community. The staff take part in the readings and we celebrate in school during the RE assembly; each child receives a medal for keepsake.