

CHURCH OF SAINT ASAPH

27 Conshohocken State Rd, Bala Cynwyd, Pa

Baptism

Baptism is the entrance rite into the community of faith. It is one of the seven sacraments of the church.

Who can be baptized?

Anyone who desires to be baptized.

Do you baptize children?

Yes, though the Episcopal Church's preference is to baptize older children and adults who can make an informed decision to follow Christ. Infant baptism is still practiced as a pastoral rite for the family who promises to train the child in one of the Christian traditions. A good alternative to infant baptism is the rite we call *Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child*.

Do you have to be a member of St. Asaph's?

Yes and no. Baptism is a communal act that takes place when our community is gathered together-- usually on a Sunday morning. There are no private baptisms just as there is no private Christian life. We do not believe you can practice Christianity alone. It takes a community. If you are not part of a faith community then you need to become part of one. If you would like for us to be a part of your spiritual journey, then we would love to talk with you.

Are there baptismal classes?

At St. Asaph's we believe baptism is the beginning of a journey with God rather than the culmination of one. For this reason, we tend to emphasize the spiritual formation of all our members as on-going baptismal training. There are no classes before an infant baptism. Adults will be asked to meet with one of the clergy for a few conversations in preparation for the baptism.

Want more information?

Call the parish offices at 610-664-0966 and ask to speak with one of our staff members.