



“WHOEVER MADE A PLACE FOR HIS MESSAGE IN THEIR
HEARTS RECEIVED THE BAPTISM...” (ACTS 2:41)

ST MICHAEL'S UNITING CHURCH

120 COLLINS ST MELBOURNE - WWW.STMICHAELS.ORG.AU



WELCOME

We are pleased that you have chosen St Michael's Uniting Church for the Baptism of your child. We hope it will be an enjoyable and memorable occasion for you.

There are some matters that you need to know in advance of the event:

- Baptisms usually occur on the second Sunday of every month (subject to change), during the morning service. Sunday service begins at 10.00am. Baptisms occur at the start of the service. The whole service takes an hour and a half.
- The Church service has several stages. It proceeds with a planned focus. **Our tradition and custom is that people stay for the whole service.**
- When the Baptism is over, children are able to go to the crèche in St Michael's Place if you wish.
- Photographs in the Church at the time of the Baptism are welcome. Thereafter we observe formality until the end of the service.

WHAT TIME DO WE NEED TO BE THERE?

You need to gather in the Waratah Room on the 1st floor of St Michael's Place behind the Church **no later than 9.45am**. A member of the Church Council will be there to meet you.

The Minister will come to the Waratah Room at 9.50am. He will welcome you and give you further details of the ceremony.

We wish to emphasise the time deadline. We appreciate the difficulties of getting family and friends together and organised, however 9.45am must be our deadline, as the service begins at 10.00am.

Please plan early to arrange car parking and remind family and friends that parking may take time. Please let all your relatives know that they need to be seated in the Church by 9.50am. The best place to park is the Grand Hyatt car park. It is \$5.00 with a stamped ticket (which can be stamped at the enquiry table in the hall in St Michael's Place.)

WHERE DO FAMILY AND FRIENDS SIT?

Please tell your family and friends who are coming to the Church for the Baptism that there are reserved seats at the **front of the Church in the second and third rows**. Please let them all know that is an expected courtesy to be present for the whole service.

THE BAPTISM

When the time for the Baptism comes, the Minister will ask the parents to stand to signify their acceptance of the Christian Faith into which their child/ren are to be baptised.

They will be called forward to the Baptismal font for the Baptism.

The Minister will ask the parents the name of the child. He will then baptise the child and then give a blessing.

Godparents are welcome and will be included in the Baptism service.

There may be a short pause for photographs to be taken. Please tell the Minister if you wish for this to happen.

The parents will then return to their place.

When the last hymn is over, the Organist will play the Organ Postlude. Many people remain to hear the music. If you wish to leave as soon as the last hymn is concluded, please do so quietly as others are wanting to hear the music.

At the end of the Service, the congregation goes to St Michael's Place for tea and coffee. You will be welcome to join. However, we appreciate that you may want to get away to your family celebration.

DO WE RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE?

An attendant from the Church will give you a Certificate to signify this special day. Please check with the Minister after the service if you have not received it.

THE WEEK PRECEDING THE BAPTISMAL SERVICE

Usually a few days prior to the Sunday of the Baptism, a member of the Church Council will contact you to discuss the proceedings and ask how many people will be attending.

If you have not heard from someone by the Friday before the Baptism, contact the Church office, to make sure everything is in order.

PEOPLE ASK:

IS THERE A FEE FOR THIS SERVICE?

You are invited to celebrate the occasion by making a donation to the church. The usual donation is \$100. Family and friends are also able to celebrate the occasion by a donation usually \$20, \$50, \$100. Cheques are accepted. These donations and cheques can be placed in the offering plate as it is passed during the service.

YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

At this special time of Baptism, we are pleased to welcome your family and friends. We would like them to feel comfortable when they come. We appreciate that some may come from a completely different culture, and others may have little or no interest in religion or the Church. They are all welcome.

FLOWER DONATION

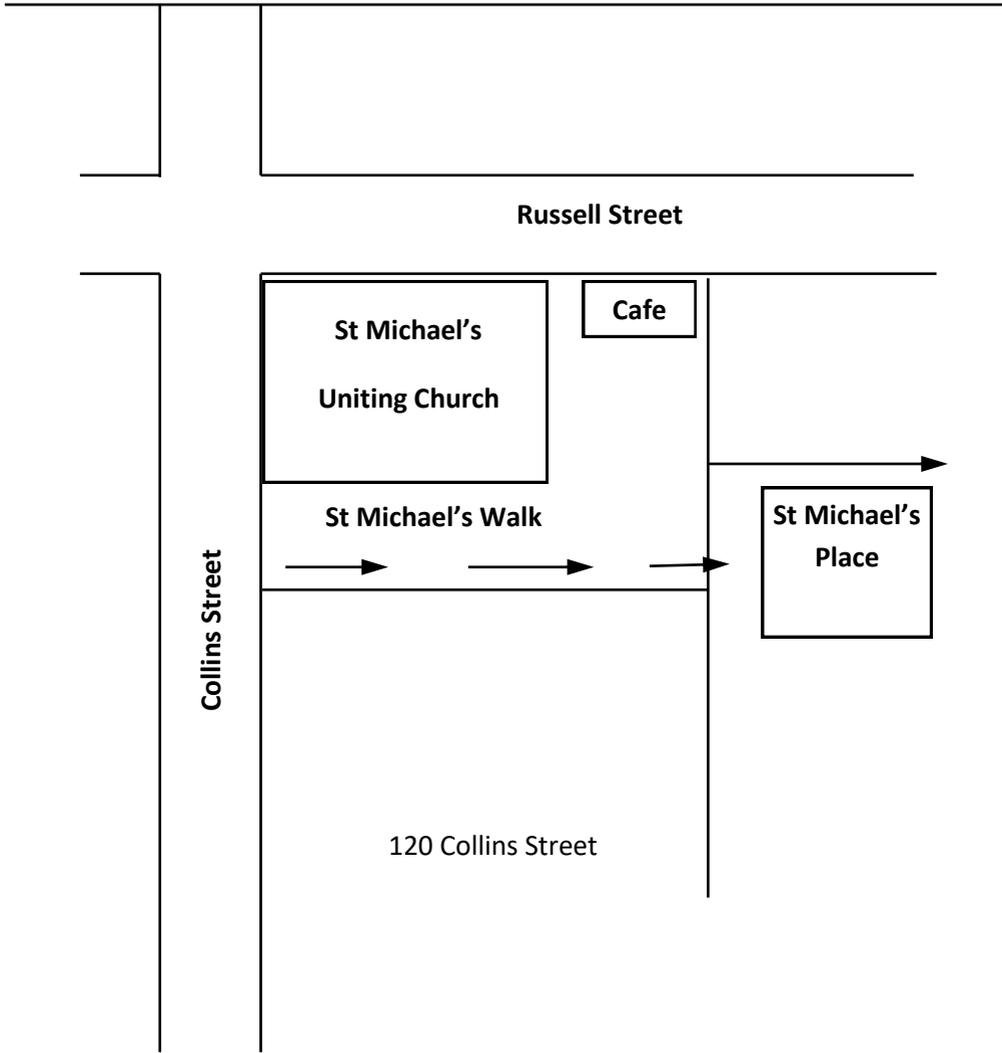
In celebration of your child's Baptism you are welcome to donate flowers for this special day. The cost is \$150 for one bunch or \$250 for two bunches and a notice can be included in the Order of Service. Due to the popularity of this opportunity, it is advisable to contact the office in advance to secure your spot. Please speak to the office staff for further details.

FURTHER QUESTIONS

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us before the Sunday of the Service. The Church office is open Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm. Telephone: 9654 5120 or email: office@stmichaels.org.au

FURTHER CONTACT

We hope that you will value the contact you have made with St Michael's on this occasion. We offer a range of programs and activities, and encourage you to join them whenever you wish.



Any information you supply to St Michael's is protected by our Privacy Policy.
If you would prefer not to receive any further communication from us,
please contact the office.