

# WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S

We hope this information will make the service more comfortable for you, your family and your guests.



## ARRIVAL

- ❖ Please arrive at the church at least 15 minutes prior to the start of the service on the day of the Baptism.
- ❖ A sidesperson (usher) will greet you and escort you to your seat.
- ❖ Families of the Baptismal candidates will have pews reserved for them and their guests at the front of the church. The row in front of you is available for extra items like baby seats, diaper bags, purses etc. Please feel free to use it.

## THE SERVICE

- ❖ The order of service is printed in the bulletin provided by the sidesperson.
- ❖ An offering is taken during the service. If you would like a tax receipt please use the visitor envelopes provided in the pew holders.

## COMMUNION

- ❖ Communion (Eucharist) follows the Baptism and offering. You and your guests will be first to be invited to the altar steps to receive communion. The sidespeople will direct you to go up to the altar beginning at the far left at the altar steps and making a line to the middle. You may kneel or stand to receive communion or a blessing. On your return to your seats, please use the side aisle.
- ❖ If you do not want to receive communion but do want a blessing, please proceed up to the altar and cross your arms over your chest. This will signal you do not wish to receive communion but do want a blessing
- ❖ Please feel free to dip a finger in the blessed Baptismal water in the font and sign yourself on the forehead with a cross if you wish. This is our custom at St. Paul's. When we do this, we remember our own Baptism, and the sacrificial love of our God for us.

## **CHILDREN**

- ❖ If you or any of your guests have children over 4 years old, they are welcome to attend Sunday School. The children are invited to the front of the church for the children's talk and prayer, and then process to Sunday school.
- ❖ The children come back into the church to watch the Baptism and then return to Sunday School. They come back into the sanctuary in time to go up with you to receive communion or a blessing.
- ❖ We also have coloring packs for young children if they don't wish to go to Sunday School. Please ask the sidesperson for one.
- ❖ If you or your guests have babies or children under 4 who are not being baptized, we have a nursery as well as a quiet room for your use. If you need these services, please ask the sidesperson to show you where these areas are.

## **PHOTOS**

- ❖ Photos may be taken during the service. The clergy will be happy to join your family in the sanctuary for photos after the service if you wish.

## **CELEBRATION**

- ❖ After the service there is a time of fellowship with your family and the congregation. There will be a special cake for the Baptismal candidate's families. Please feel free to take a photo of the cake and to take a cross and a dove from the cake as there is a set for each candidate as a memento if you would like them.

**Thank you for choosing St. Paul's for this special occasion – we are happy to celebrate and be part of  
this wonderful day with you!**