

**Baptism** is the sacrament of new birth in Jesus Christ, and new life as a member of the household of God. It includes the symbolic "washing away" of sin, and freedom from sin's tyranny. It is a symbolic death to the old way of life, and resurrection to new life in Christ. It is offered to sincere believers who want to become members of Christ's body, and to the children of those believers who are willing to commit to raising their children as Christians.

Baptism joins each individual believer to Christ and to his church. It involves a commitment to Jesus and to the community of believers (the church). It may involve a change of lifestyle and focus. Therefore it is of vital importance to the believer, their immediate family and the whole Christian community that baptismal candidates are well prepared. For this reason adult baptismal candidates and the families of infant candidates are required to participate in five **Baptismal Preparation Classes**. These take place on the five Sundays preceding the baptism (see schedule).

The community also takes seriously their responsibility to help new Christians live this new life in Christ. The parish will pray for the candidates during the preparation. The baptismal candidates will also be supported by Parish Sponsors for the year following baptism. The Sponsor's role is to help the candidates (and their parents) find their place in God's family and to see that they are equipped to fulfill the promises they make in baptism.

Adult candidates and the parents of infant candidates are asked to give a short testimony to their faith at the service of Baptism. Opportunity will be given during the first four weeks of the preparation classes to reflect on the questions that will be asked so that candidates will be able to prepare their responses.

## Dates of Baptisms

St. Matthew's Day, Sunday, Sept. 20, 2009  
(*This will be a full immersion baptism outdoors*)

All Saints Day, November 1, 2009

Holy Saturday, April 3, 2010

Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2010

## Baptism Preparation Classes

Baptism preparation classes usually take place on the five Sunday mornings immediately prior to baptism.

The classes begin on:

### Sunday, September 6, 2009

*This is a modified course for St. Matthew's Day.  
This course only will involve one Saturday and two Sundays*

### Sunday, September 27, 2009

*for November 1, 2009 All Saints Day baptism*

### Sunday, February 28, 2010

*for Easter April 3, 2010 baptism*

### Sunday, April 18, 2010

*for Pentecost May 23, 2010 baptism*

## Services

### Sundays:

8:30 a.m. Traditional Holy Communion  
10:15 a.m. Contemporary Communion  
7:00 pm (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday) Healing Service

### Wednesdays:

10:00 a.m. Traditional said Holy Communion

## Course Outline

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday:** *Baptism: the sacrament of inclusion and continuity.*

Candidates and Instructors are dismissed after the sermon to go to their classes.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday:** *Baptized into the life of Jesus.*

Meet for 1 hour after 8:30 service or before 10:15 service.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday:** *Discipleship: bible study, fellowship, worship, prayer.*

Candidates and Instructors are dismissed after the sermon to go to their classes.

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday:** *Discerning your gifts.*

Meet for 1 hour after 8:30 service or before 10:15 service.

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday:** *Introduction to Parish Sponsors.*

Meet at 12:30 p.m. for lunch and rehearsal.

**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday:** Baptism



### Coordinators:

The Rev. Don Gardner  
Linda Seale



For further information call: (604) 853-2416  
Carolyn Pera (Administrative Assistant)

## REGISTRATION

Candidate's Last Name
Candidate's First & Middle Names
Father's Last Name
Father's First & Middle Names
Mother's Last Name & Maiden Name
Mother's First & Middle Names
Address
City & Postal Code
Phone (where you can be reached)
Email
Father's Occupation
Date of Candidate's Birth (Mo/Day/year)
Place of Birth
Date of Baptism
Date of Preparation Workshop
Godparent
Godparent

**Please mail the registration form or bring it to**  
 St. Matthew's Anglican Church  
 2010 Guilford Drive  
 Abbotsford, B. C. V2S 5R2

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 2010 Guilford Drive  
 Abbotsford, B., C.  
 V2S 5R2

Phone (604) 853-2416

Fax (604) 853-1789

Email: [stmatts1@telus.net](mailto:stmatts1@telus.net)

Web site:

[www.stmatthewsanglicanchurch.com](http://www.stmatthewsanglicanchurch.com)

Rector: the Rev. Dr. Trevor Walters

Associate: the Rev. Mike Stewart

### Assisting clergy

Priest: the Rev. Dr. Ken Deeks

Deacons: the Rev. Don Gardner

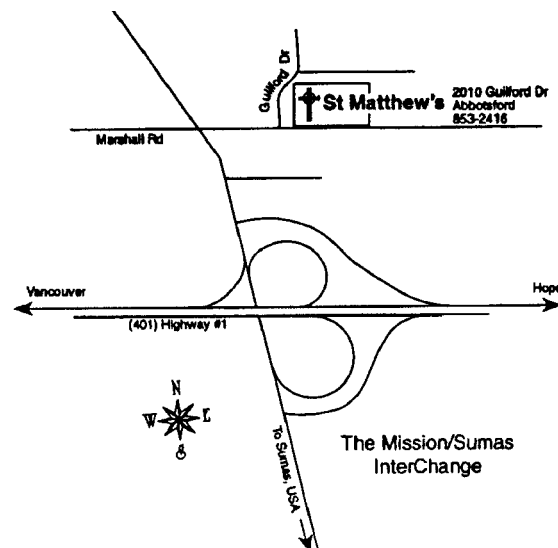
the Rev. Rich Roberts

the Rev. Gary Stobbs

Youth Pastor: Joel Willoughby

### Location

St. Matthew's is located 2 blocks north of Sumas Way on the corner of Marshall Road and Guilford Drive.



# Baptism Preparation



Held at  
 St. Matthew's Anglican  
 Church