

Baptism Philosophy

Baptism is an important step for every believer. Below you will find some important information about the meaning of baptism and how it is performed.

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF BAPTISM? *It illustrates Christ's burial and resurrection.* "Christ died for our sins... He was buried... and He rose again." I Corinthians 15:3-4 "For when you were baptized, you were buried with Christ, and in baptism you were also raised with Christ." Colossians. 2:12 *It illustrates my new life as a Christian.* "When someone becomes a Christian he becomes a brand new person inside. The old life has passed away and a new life has begun!" 2 Corinthians. 5:17 "By our baptism then, we were buried with Him and shared His death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead... so also we may live a new life!" Romans 6:4 Baptism does not make you a believer - it shows that you already believe. Baptism does not "save" you, only your faith in Christ does that. Baptism is like a wedding ring - it's the outward symbol of the commitment you make in your heart. "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith... it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

WHY BE BAPTIZED BY IMMERSION? Because Jesus was baptized that way. "As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water." Matthew 3:16 Every baptism in the Bible was by immersion. "...then both Philip and the man went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water..." Acts 8:38-39 The Greek word baptize means "to immerse or dip under water". It best symbolized a burial and resurrection! The founders of denominations agree: Martin Luther... "I would have those who are to be baptized to be entirely immersed, as the work imports and the mystery signifies." John Calvin... "The word 'baptize' signifies to immerse. It is certain that immersion was the practice of the ancient church." John Wesley... "Buried with Him, alludes to baptizing by immersion according to the custom of the first church."

WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED? Every person who has believed in Christ. "Those who believe and accepted His message were baptized..." Acts 2:41 "Simon himself believed and was baptized..." Acts 8:13 "But when they believed Philip as he preached the Good News... and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." Acts 8:1 At Crosspointe Church, we wait until our children are old enough to believe and understand the true meaning of baptism before we baptize them. Some churches practice a "baptism of confirmation" for children. This ceremony is intended to be a covenant between the parents and God on the behalf of the child. The parents promise to raise their child in the faith until the child is old enough to make his own personal confession of Christ. This custom began about 300 years after the Bible was completed. This is different from the baptism talked about in the Bible which was only for those old enough to believe. The purpose is to publicly confess your personal commitment to Christ.

WHEN SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED? As soon as you have believed. "Those who believe...were baptized...that day!" Acts 2:41 "Then Philip began with the Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water, and the man said, 'Look, here is water! Why shouldn't I be baptized right now?' Philip said, 'If you believe with all your heart, you may.' The man answered, 'I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.' So they went down into the water and Philip baptized him." Acts 8:35-38 There is no reason to delay. As soon as you have decided to receive Christ into your life, you can and should be baptized. If you wait until you are "perfect", you'll never feel "good enough"!

CAN MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS BE BAPTIZED TOGETHER? Yes! If each person understands fully the meaning of baptism, and each one has personally placed his/her trust in Christ for salvation, we encourage families to be baptized at the same time. It is a wonderful expression of commitment. However, it is important to remember that baptism is a personal statement of faith, not a family or group tradition. It is usually not wise to delay your baptism while waiting on others to join you. This puts an undue pressure on them, and delays your obedience.

WHAT SHOULD I WEAR WHEN I AM BAPTIZED? Women should wear shorts and a top. Men may wear shorts and a t-shirt. Bring a change of clothes, a towel, and a plastic bag for your wet clothes. We'll provide you with a t-shirt that we encourage you to wear and that you can keep to remember your special day.

WILL I HAVE TO SAY ANYTHING? At the beginning of the service, one of the Pastors will briefly explain the meaning of baptism. You will wait in the water for your turn to be baptized. The Pastor will introduce you, and then ask if you have asked Jesus in to your heart. After you reply, YES! He will briefly lower you just under the water, and then you can leave the water, dry off, and watch the others. Later you will receive your baptism certificate in the mail. We encourage you to invite all your relatives and friends to attend your baptism.

Non Easter Baptisms SOP

- Preresiquites:** 2 Pools > 8 sign ups or just one pool on the right side of worship center
 Baptism Kiosk in Glass Room with name tags & two sharpies
 Baptism T-Shirts
 Swim trunks & towels for spontaneous sign ups & Baptizing team
 One table on right side & left side with a pool side kit, towels & lighted clipboard
- Responsibilities:** Pastor Jeff Snodgrass – Staffing Baptizers for both services
 Baptism Deacons – Set up, sign ups at kiosk & pool side, tear down, & track T-shirts
 Shannon Moore / Ninja's - name tags, sharpies, and pre sign up worksheet & mailing certificates after being Baptized
 Prayer Deacons - Staffing Prayer team for two pools
 Additional Deacons – volunteer at Kiosk or pool side on Sunday mornings

Procedure: Pre Sign Ups & follow up

Responsible Party	Action Steps
Staff & Ninja's	1) Input Connection Cards, Website, Starting Pointe, & in person with staff member sign ups into Google Baptism sheet; 2) Communicate to pre sign ups to bring their own towel & swimwear – Addendum 1 3) Print and send Baptism certificates;
Shannon Moore	1) Friday communicate to Deacon Baptism Team tentative signups for Pool set up; 2) Sunday Morning Shannon Moore will print out pre sign up worksheet & spontaneous worksheet 2 copies for each service Addendum 2 (example sheets); 3) Provide name tags & sharpies in classroom;

Procedure: Assigning Staff for Sunday Baptisms

Responsible Party	Action Steps
Baptism Deacon Lead	Schedule two staff members for 9:30am & 11:00am services by Thursday & communicated to Pastoral staff. If short, contact Jeff Snodgrass to be filled by Crosspointe Pastors
Baptism Deacon Lead	Sunday Morning will assign staff to each pool and provide staff T-Shirt (if needed) plus towel

Procedure: Baptism Pools & Sunday Procedures

Responsible Party	Action Steps
Set Up Saturday Deacons	1) Saturday morning set up two pools if 8 or more people have signed up 2) If less than 8, only one pool will be set up on the right side of worship center 3) Set up one table on each side with pool side kit (add distance)
Sunday Deacons & Prayer Team	1) Sunday morning remove heating elements and insure Kiosk is in place 2) Two Deacons at each side to direct traffic and spontaneous folks after Pastor Brian speech to come forward 3) Prayer Team – two per pool per service
Tear Down Deacons	Sunday after 2 nd service tear down both pools. Two Deacons and/or volunteers a must to tear down the pools & send Shannon Moore T-Shirt inventory

Procedure: Classroom

Responsible Party	Action Steps
Baptism Deacons	Glassroom - two Deacons per service to check in everyone & communicate to spontaneous sign up's to return towels to Glassroom
Staff & Prayer Team	Staff or Prayer team to pray over everyone getting Baptized & walk through what will happen – Addendum 3 (pre service walk through)

Addendum 1 – Staff & Ninjas next steps when someone signs up

- Each person should be added to the Campus Baptism Workflow in Planning Center.
 - Typically a Ninja (office volunteer) will input information
 - Shannon or other staff will ensure this is happening
- The sign up needs to be **ACKNOWLEDGED** within 24 hours of signing up
 - Best practice is a text message: *Hey [name], this is Pastor Brian from Crosspointe. I saw you signed up for baptism. We'll be in touch soon with more information but I've got you down for [Next Baptism Date]. Here's some additional information about this important decision: **Crosspointe.com/baptism***
 - This person should also receive the baptism email from Planning Center.
 - Staff member's email address; even if you're not the one manually sending it.
- If the sign up is for someone in a Next Gen ministry, or they have a close relationship with another church leader, pass the follow-up on to them.
 - **For kids wanting to be baptized, it is best practice for your Kidpointe leader, or you if needed, have a conversation with the child's parent(s)/guardian(s) about this decision. We want to decipher whether the baptism idea originated from the child or the parent.**
 - **A conversation should also be held with the child to make sure they understand what they are doing and that they have an appropriate understanding of salvation and baptism.**
- **FOLLOW-UP - The week heading into the scheduled baptism:**
 - Text Message: Hey [Name], I'm so excited for your baptism this Sunday during the [time of their service] service! Make sure you arrive 30 minutes before the service and meet me at Glassroom. We will walk you through everything you need to know. Don't forget to bring your towel, swim trunks, and a change of clothes!
 - Imperative – Regardless of when someone signed up two months or two weeks, Be sure to send a text the **WEEK OF** baptism.

Addendum 2 - Pre sign up's, Glassroom & Spontaneous Examples

Pre Sign in / Baptism 9:30am Example					
Date:					9:30AM
Badge # Pool R/L	First Name	Last Name	Email	Cell Number	T-Shirt Size
1R	John	Baptista	JbforChrist@gmail.com	247-478-4267	XL
1L	Eve	Gardena	EglovesJesus@gmail.com	456-835-3787	M
Will be assigned on Sunday	This information will be entered via Connection Card, Website, Starting Pointe, & in person with staff				

Pre Sign in / Baptism 11:00am Example					
Date:					11:00AM
Badge # Pool R/L	First Name	Last Name	Email	Cell Number	T-Shirt Size
1R	John	Baptista	JbforChrist@gmail.com	247-478-4267	XL
1L	Eve	Gardena	EglovesJesus@gmail.com	456-835-3787	M
Will be assigned on Sunday	This information will be entered via Connection Card, Website, Starting Pointe, & in person with staff				

2 COPIES PER SERVICE

Glassroom & Spontaneous Sign in 9:30AM Example					
Date:					9:30AM
Badge # Pool R/L	First Name	Last Name	Email	Cell Number	T-Shirt Size

Glassroom & Spontaneous Sign in 11:00AM Example					
Date:					11:00AM
Badge # Pool R/L	First Name	Last Name	Email	Cell Number	T-Shirt Size

Addendum 3 – Glassroom PRE-SERVICE WALK THROUGH

Anyone being Baptized will meet in the Glassroom 30 minutes before each service

- ☐ Who should be present:
 - The Deacon baptism leader(s)
 - Crosspointe Staff and or Prayer Team
 - Pre sign up's & glassroom sign up's being Baptized
- ☐ Have everyone change into their swim suits and "I HAVE DECIDED" T-Shirts & return to Glassroom
- ☐ Communicate **WHEN** the participants need to be ready by. If the baptism is at the beginning of the service (not typical) they can be ready immediately. If the baptism is at the end of the service (typical) communicate when Pastor Brian releases everyone to go to their respective spot

(Note: once Pastor Brian says 1,2,3, GO, Pre Sign ups & Glassroom sign ups can line up in Front of the Table & Spontaneous folks will line up behind table)

- ☐ Communicate that they will line up in front of the table in their respective number order & pool side
- ☐ Communicate the importance of Baptism, it could be the following:
 - ☐ *"Baptism is a lot like my wedding ring. This is not a trick question, but if I take my wedding ring off, am I still married? Yes. The ring is simply a symbol of a commitment I made to my wife. It doesn't make me married, but it is a reminder to me that I'm married. It also is a symbol to everyone else that I'm taken. It's also a symbol to my wife that I love her enough to identify myself as married to her. Baptism is similar. It doesn't make you a Christian, but it is a symbol of an inward commitment you have made"*
- ☐ Salvation Prayer, it could be the following:
 - ☐ *"I don't want to assume I know where everyone in the room is spiritually. So whether you said this prayer a long time ago, or right now will be the first time, I want to walk you through a prayer of commitment. You're getting baptized because you desire a relationship with Jesus and the genesis for a relationship with Jesus is asking him to be the Lord and Savior of your life, another way to think of it is the boss, coach and C.E.O. Before you can have a relationship with Jesus you must ask him to forgive you of your sins and take full control of your life... *salvation prayer*."*
- ☐ Communicate & show people how to hold their nose and where you will be putting your hands as they are getting Baptized
- ☐ Communicate to everyone about how long you will be in the water and that after being Baptized there will be a picture taken
- ☐ Communicate if they are getting a towel, the towel needs to be returned to the glassroom. They keep the swim trunks.

Beach Baptisms SOP

- Prerequisites:
- 3 to 5 Canopies
 - Two 6 foot tables with name tags & two sharpies
 - Baptism T-Shirts Storage Bins Adult & Kids & Rock Usher Vests
 - Towels if necessary for Spontaneous sign ups (12 only)
- Responsibilities:
- Pastor Brian – Staffing Baptizers for 4 lines or more
 - Baptism Deacons - Set up Sunday morning, secure area, & tear down
 - Shannon Moore / Ninja's - name tags, sharpies, pens, and pre sign up worksheet & mailing certificates after being Baptized
 - Prayer Deacons - Staffing Prayer team for four lines
 - Rock Ushers - help everyone from starting point to cove and back
 - Additional Deacons – Help with set up / tear down & securing area

Procedure: **Pre Sign Ups & follow up**

Responsible Party	Action Steps
Staff & Ninja's	1) Input Connection Cards, Website, Starting Pointe, & in person with staff member sign ups into Google Baptism sheet 2) Communicate to pre sign ups to bring their own towel & swimwear & email directions & to arrive by 4:30pm Addendum 4 3) Print and send Baptism certificates
Shannon Moore	1) Email Deacon Baptism Team by Friday Google Doc Check in Sheets; 2) Sunday afternoon Shannon Moore will print out 2 copies of updated check in sheets (if necessary) & bring to the beach – Addendum 5 (Beach example sheets) 3) Provide name tags and 2 sharpies at the beach or before at the church

Procedure: **Assigning Staff for Beach Baptisms**

Responsible Party	Action Steps
Pastor Brian	Schedule a minimum of 8 people for 4 lines
Baptism Deacon Lead	Sunday will assign staff to each line and provide staff T-Shirt (if needed)

Procedure: **Beach Baptism Procedures**

Responsible Party	Action Steps
Set Up Sunday Deacons	1) Arrive by 6 AM to set up 3 to 5 canopies (main one Crosspointe Guest Services canopy) 2) Main Crosspointe canopy set up two tables & Baptism T-Shirt storage bins 3) Two clip boards with two sharpies, pens, and name tags
Deacons: Rock Ushers: Prayer Team:	Secure area - recommend 4 hour shifts per team Staff 6 to 8 persons to help out on Sunday and pass out vests Staff two Prayer folks per line
Tear Down All	Once everyone is at the cove getting Baptized, Deacons and/or volunteers tear down area

Procedure: **Beach Baptism Pregame**

Responsible Party	Action Steps
Pastor Brian	Sermon, communicate what will happen, & prayer
Rock Ushers: Prayer Team: Deacons:	Assign position and get in place Assign Prayer Team to each line Get spontaneous sign up info and provide T-Shirt and towel (if necessary)

Addendum 4 - Beach Baptism Directions - Corona Del Mar

55 south;

73 south;

Exit MacArthur Blvd and make a right;

Left on Pacific Hwy;

Right on Marguerite;

Right on Ocean Blvd;

Entrance into the beach will be 100 feet on your left;

When you enter go straight pass guard gate and make a right;

Look for Crosspointe Church Canopy on the left;

Arrive by 4:30pm

Addendum 5 – Beach Check in & Spontaneous Examples

Beach Baptism Check in Sheets Example						
Date:						5:00pm
Checked In	First Name	Last Name	Email	Cell Number	T-Shirt Size	Campus
	John	Baptista	JbforChrist@gmail.com	247-478-4267	XL	Anaheim
	Sarah	Baptista			M-Child	Anaheim
	Davey	Crockett	DCAIamo@gmail.com	714-987-6543	L	Brea
This information will be entered via Connection Card, Website, Starting Pointe, & in person with staff						

2 COPIES

Spontaneous Beach Baptisms Example					
Date:					5:00pm
Campus	First Name	Last Name	Email	Cell Number	T-Shirt Size

Easter Baptisms SOP

- Prerequisites:
- 2 Pools
 - Baptism Kiosk in Glass Room with name tags & two sharpies
 - Baptism T-Shirts Storage Bins Adult & Kids
 - Swim trunks & towels for spontaneous sign ups & Baptizing team
 - One 6 foot table on right side & left side with a Easter side kit, towels & lighted clipboard
- Responsibilities:
- Pastor Jeff Snodgrass – Staffing Baptizers for all services
 - Baptism Deacons – Set up, Sunday sign ups kiosk & pool side, & tear down
 - Shannon Moore / Ninja's - name tags, sharpies, and pre sign up worksheet & mailing certificates after being Baptized
 - Prayer Deacons - Staffing Prayer team for two pools
 - Additional Deacons – volunteer at Kiosk or pool side on Easter

Procedure: **Pre Sign Ups & follow up**

Responsible Party	Action Steps
Staff & Ninja's	1) Input Connection Cards, Website, Starting Pointe, & in person with staff member sign ups into Google Easter Baptism sheet 2) Communicate to pre sign ups to bring their own towel & swimwear 3) Print and send Baptism certificate
Shannon Moore	1) Friday communicate to Deacon Baptism Team tentative signups; 2) Sunday Morning Shannon Moore will print out pre sign up worksheet & spontaneous worksheet 2 copies for each service – Addendum 6 (Easter example sheets) 3) Provide name tags and sharpies for Kiosk and Easter side tables

Procedure: **Assigning Staff for Easter Sunday**

Responsible Party	Action Steps
Baptism Deacon Lead	Schedule two staff members for 9am, 10:30am, Noon, & 5pm by Thursday & to Pastoral staff. If short, contact Jeff Snodgrass to be filled by Crosspointe Pastors.
Deacon Lead	Sunday Morning will assign staff to each pool and provide staff T-Shirt (if needed) plus towel Sunday will communicate to Deacons or volunteers where they will serve

Procedure: **Baptism Pools & Easter Procedures**

Responsible Party	Action Steps
Set Up Saturday Deacons	1) Saturday morning set up two pools 2) Set up one 6 foot table on each side with Easter side kit (add distance) 3) Insure each table has lighted clipboard
Sunday Deacons & Prayer Team	1) Sunday morning remove heating elements and insure Kiosk is in place with two Deacons 2) Two Deacons and or volunteers at each side to direct traffic and spontaneous folks after Pastor Brian speech to come forward for all services 3) Prayer Team – two per pool per service
Tear Down Deacons	Sunday after 2 nd service tear down both pools. Two Deacons and /or volunteers a must to tear down the pools

Procedure: **Glassroom**

Responsible Party	Action Steps
Baptism Deacons	Glassroom - two Deacons per service to check in everyone & communicate to glassroom sign up's to return towels to Glassroom
Staff or Prayer Team	Staff or Prayer team to pray over everyone getting Baptized & walk through what will happen – Addendum 3 (pre service walk through)

Addendum 7 – Pre sign up's, Classroom & Spontaneous Examples

Pre Sign in / Easter 9:00am, 10:30am, Noon & 5PM Example					
Date:				Service time= ☐	
Badge # Pool R/L	First Name	Last Name	Email	Cell Number	T-Shirt Size
1R	John	Baptista	JbforChrist@gmail.com	247-478-4267	XL
1L	Eve	Gardena	EglovesJesus@gmail.com	456-835-3787	M
Will be assigned on Sunday	This information will be entered via Connection Card, Website, Starting Pointe, & in person with staff				

2 COPIES PER SERVICE

Classroom & Spontaneous Sign in 9:00AM Example					
Date:					9:00AM
Badge # Pool R/L	First Name	Last Name	Email	Cell Number	T-Shirt Size

Classroom & Spontaneous Sign in 10:30AM Example					
Date:					10:30AM
Badge # Pool R/L	First Name	Last Name	Email	Cell Number	T-Shirt Size

Classroom & Spontaneous Sign in Noon Example					
Date:					Noon
Badge # Pool R/L	First Name	Last Name	Email	Cell Number	T-Shirt Size

Classroom & Spontaneous Sign in 5PM Example					
Date:					5PM
Badge # Pool R/L	First Name	Last Name	Email	Cell Number	T-Shirt Size

Rock Usher Vests – Option 1

Universal Fit, Built for Real People

Unisex design fits a wide range of sizes and layers easily over any clothing

1 Designed for layering over T-shirts, jackets, and uniforms

2 Fitting both men and women across various sizes

3 Allowing quick and easy on/off in seconds



NOBONDO High Visibility Reflective Safety Vests 10 Pack - 360 Enhanced Visibility with Hi Vis Reflective Strips - Yellow Breathable Mesh, Bulk Pack for Construction, Traffic, Running, Security

10 Pack \$25.99

Rock Usher Vests – Option 2



**Custom Safety Vest High
Visibility Reflective
Personalized Vests with
Logo Photo Pocket Zipper**

10 FOR \$79.99