

BAPTISMS

Parental Authority for Children to Receive the Sacraments – “Family Law Issues”

Situations sometimes arise where, following a marriage breakdown, there is a disagreement between parents about whether a child should receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist). These situations become more complex if there is a Family Law Court determination about custody arrangements and about the parents' rights to be involved in significant decisions in their child's life. Ideally, both parents should always sign the enrolment forms for sacramental preparation. If both parents are not in agreement, and yet the Family Court has determined that both parents are entitled to be involved in the decision, then the sacrament should be delayed until the matter is resolved. The Chancery will provide more advice about this in the near future. Please contact the Vicar General if you have any concerns in the meantime.