



Baptism



NAME OF CHILD _____

BAPTISM PREPARATION CHECKLIST

CHOOSE BIBLE READING	
WRITE BAPTISM PRAYER	
3 FAMILY VALUES	
CHRISTIAN HOPE FOR MY CHILD	
CHOOSING GOD PARENTS	
CHRISTIAN SONG/HYMN REQUEST	

Baptism Readings (Please choose 1)



The Baptism of Jesus

²¹ When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”
Luke 3: 21-22

Jesus Welcomes Children

¹³ Then the people brought their little children to Jesus so that he could lay his hands on them to bless them and pray for them. When the followers saw this, they told the people to stop bringing their children to him. ¹⁴ But Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me. Don’t stop them, because God’s kingdom belongs to people who are like these children.” ¹⁵ After Jesus blessed the children, he left there. Matthew 19: 13-14

Psalm 23

23 The LORD is my shepherd.

I will always have everything I need.

² He gives me green pastures to lie in.

He leads me by calm pools of water.

³ He restores my strength.

He leads me on right paths to show that he is good.

⁴ Even if I walk through a valley as dark as the grave,

I will not be afraid of any danger, because you are with me.

Your rod and staff comfort me.

⁵ You prepared a meal for me in front of my enemies.

You welcomed me as an honored guest.

My cup is full and spilling over.

⁶ Your goodness and mercy will be with me all my life,

and I will live in the LORD's house a long, long time.

Psalm 139

¹³ You formed the way I think and feel.

You put me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I praise you because you made me in such a wonderful way.

I know how amazing that was!

¹⁵ You could see my bones grow as my body took shape,

hidden in my mother's womb.

¹⁶ You could see my body grow each passing day.

You listed all my parts, and not one of them was missing.

¹⁷ Your thoughts are beyond my understanding.

They cannot be measured!

¹⁸ If I could count them, they would be more than all the grains of sand.

But when I finished, I would have just begun.

Prayer (Please fill in the blank spaces)



Dear God,

When we think about.... [name of child]

We are thankful for.....

We hope for.....

We worry about.....

We ask for.....

Amen

3 Family Values

Being baptized is the first step on the journey of faith. It is when someone officially becomes part of God's big family. What are 3 values you have as a family that you would like to pass on to your child.

Christian Hopes

What would you like your child to learn about God as they travel on their journey of faith? How will you make them feel part of God's big family?

Choosing Godparents

Every child should have at least three godparents, two of the same sex and at least one of the opposite sex to your child. Although there is no official maximum number of godparents, three or four is usual. **Godparents must have been baptised (Christened) themselves.** Those who have not been baptised, possibly because they have a different faith, or no faith, can still play a special role in your child's life as sponsors.

God parents will be people you trust to talk to your children about God and about the big questions of faith, hope and love.

The Baptism Service

The following is an example of the words said and promises made at a baptism. There may be slight variations depending on the type of service. It is important that you know what you and each Godparent are promising before God in baptism. If you do not feel you are able to make these promises or that the time isn't right for you to have your child baptized, you may wish to consider a THANKSGIVING service. More details can be found on the church of England website, and we would be happy to discuss this with you.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/life-events/christenings/parents-guide-christenings/thanksgiving-services>

The service

The service will include prayers, a Bible reading and talk and often Holy Communion and songs. The words below are said at the Font during the part of the service where promises are made, and your child is baptised.

The minister asks the parents



Do you receive *NAME* as a gift from God? **We do**

Do you wish to give thanks to God and seek his blessing? **We do**

The minister asks the Godparents

Will you do all that you can to help and support *NAME and NAME* in the bringing up of *NAME*? **With the help of God, we will**

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATE

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Do not stop them'. We thank God for *NAME* who *has* come to be baptised today. Christ loves *them* and welcomes *them* into his Church.

So, I ask you all:

Will you support these children as they begin their journey of faith?
We will.

Will you help them to live and grow within God's family?
We will

The minister addresses the parents and godparents

God knows each of us by name and we are his. Parents, godparents & sponsors you speak for *NAME* today.

Will you pray for *them*, and help *them* to follow Christ? **We will**

THE DECISION

The minister addresses the candidates directly, or through their parents and godparents

We all wander far from God and lose our way: Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home. In baptism we respond to his call.

Therefore, I ask:

Do you turn away from sin? **I do.**

Do you reject evil? **I do.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour? **I do.**

Do you trust in him as Lord? **I do.**

SIGNING WITH THE CROSS & ANOINTING WITH OIL

The minister makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate, saying

Christ claims you for his own.
Receive the sign of his cross.
Do not be ashamed of Christ.
You are his for ever.



**All Stand bravely with him
against all the powers of evil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life. May almighty God deliver
you from the powers of darkness and lead you in the light and obedience of
Christ. Amen.**

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

Praise God who made heaven and earth **who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.



We praise you, loving Father, for the gift of your Son Jesus. He was baptized in the River Jordan, where your Spirit came upon him and revealed him as the Son you love. He sent his followers to baptize all who turn to him. Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water, that those who are baptized in it may be cleansed in the water of life, and, filled with your Spirit, may know that they are loved as your children, safe in Christ for ever. **Amen**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us affirm, together with *these* who *are* being baptized, our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

BAPTISM

The minister pours water on the candidate, saying

NAME, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. **AMEN**

WELCOME & PEACE



There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: *NAME*,
by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you

We are all one in Christ Jesus.

We belong to him through faith, heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also, with you.

Faithful and loving God, bless those who care for *these children* and grant them your gifts of love, wisdom and faith. Pour upon them your healing and reconciling love and protect their homes from all evil. Fill them with the light of your presence and establish them in the joy of your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*The baptism party return to their seats.
A lit candle will be presented at the end of the service*

What next?

As your child have been baptised into the Christian Church, we would love to join with you on your and the journey of faith. You are welcome any time, however the first Sunday of each month at St Paul's Quarndon and at St Nick's Allestree are very informal services which may suit families including those who are new to or returning to church.

We look forward to welcoming you, your child, family and friends.

