

FAQS

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Nothing! Baptism is the church's gift to you. However if you would like to make a donation as a gift offering then that would be wonderful.

CAN ANYONE BE A GODPARENT?

Yes, as long as they have been christened themselves. They are making serious promises for your child. You will want someone who will help your child to make good choices in life and to find out more about the Christian faith.

HOW MANY GODPARENTS?

Traditionally it is two of the same sex as your child and one of the other. However what matters is the right people. You are better having one or two good godparents rather than asking lots. We recommend no more than four.

WHAT IF I HAVEN'T BEEN CHRISTENED?

You can still have your child christened but you might like to think about your faith and God a bit more. Talk to the Vicar about this. Maybe you would like to be christened.

CAN I HAVE A PRIVATE SERVICE?

All Church of England services are public. There may be other children being christened at the same time. We like to have christenings in our main Sunday services but we recognise that can be difficult for those travelling a long way. So we also have 12 noon services especially for christenings.

CAN I CHOOSE READINGS & HYMNS?

If the christening is at the main service these may have already been chosen, however talk to the Vicar when they come to see you, it may be possible.



tringteamparish.org.uk

Living God's Love

Tring & Puttenham - Huw Bellis
01442 822170 huw@tringteamparish.org.uk

Aldbury - Michelle Grace
01442 851200 michelle@tringteamparish.org.uk

Long Marston & Wilstone - Jane Banister
01442 822170 jane@tringteamparish.org.uk

Parish Curate - Sarah Marshall
07538 888502 sarah@tringteamparish.org.uk

Baptism Secretary - Mike Watkin
01442 890407 baptism@tringteamparish.org.uk

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Your Child's Amazing Journey



CHRISTENINGS IN THE TRING TEAM PARISH

Living God's Love



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

STARTING YOUR CHILD ON AN AMAZING JOURNEY

By choosing to have your child christened you are giving your child the best possible start. Your child will be taking their first steps on an amazing journey. A christening marks the start of a lifetime of discovery about the Christian faith and how life-changing that can be. It's a journey of surprises, challenges and adventure. And through it all, God is always with us.

At the heart of the christening service is the baptism with water. The Vicar will pour water onto your child's head and say "I baptise you in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." It is a sign that God knows your child by name and takes delights in them.



*God knows each
of us by name
and we are his.
Parents and
godparents, you
speak for this
child today.
Will you pray for
them, and help
them to follow
Christ?*

THANKSGIVING

Please come to one of our regular Sunday services for a thanksgiving before the baptism. The gift of a child is a wonderful thing. Life is precious. The thanksgiving is an opportunity to join with the regular churchgoers to give thanks for your child. No water is used because the baptism is something that happens at a later date. If you are uncertain about baptism, or do not feel ready to make the serious commitment that is involved in baptism, then a thanksgiving service may be an appropriate and joyful celebration and naming ceremony in its own right.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

We run monthly baptism preparation sessions. Whether it is your first child or you are old hands it is really good to attend these. You will meet others bringing their children for baptism and we can explain more about the service. It is also your opportunity to ask any questions (without the Vicar being there!) Up to date details of the time and place of these baptism preparation sessions can be found on our website or by calling the Baptism Secretary (see overleaf).

BAPTISM FORM

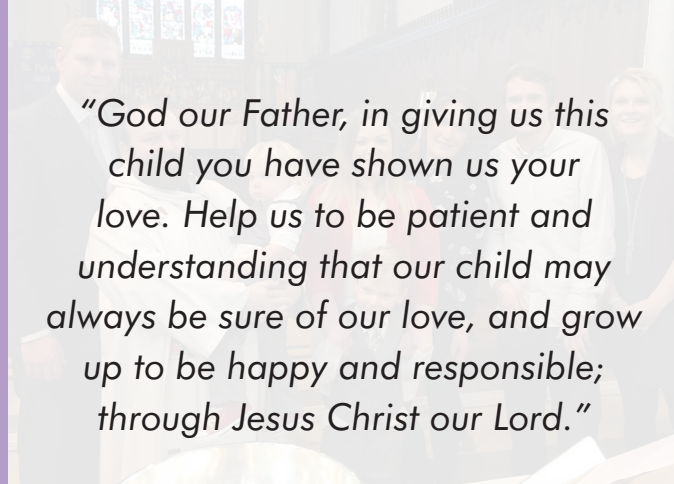
It is important for us to get the correct information. The service is only 'booked' when we have received the form back from you either electronically or by hand. The details go into the baptism register; part of the official records of the land.

THE SERVICE

It is wonderful to have all of your family and friends gather as we use the water of baptism to start your child on this amazing journey with God. A copy of the service is in the pack.

WELCOME

Please come back to church after the baptism so that everyone can welcome your child into the community of faith. This can happen at any of our main Sunday services. The words for this are in the resources leaflet.



*"God our Father, in giving us this
child you have shown us your
love. Help us to be patient and
understanding that our child may
always be sure of our love, and grow
up to be happy and responsible;
through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

AFTER THE SERVICE

You will need to continue to help your child on the journey of faith with God. The most important things you can do are to:

Pray for your child and with your child. This can be as simple as saying thank you for everything good that has happened today.

Read Bible stories to your child. Christianity is a story religion. There are great children's Bibles available these days.

Introduce your child to the wider church family. This journey is much easier with others. We will invite you to special services but you are welcome to any service all the time.

You might also like to think about your own faith. We are all learning more about God through worship, studying, reading books and watching films as well as much more. We run a course exploring in a relaxed way what it is to be a Christian. If you are interested in learning more with us, then contact one of the Vicars.