

# BAPTISM



at  
**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,**  
**Norris Road, Blacon, CH1 5DZ**

We are delighted that you want to have your child baptised at Holy Trinity. This leaflet explains what Baptism is, and what the service will involve.

**BAPTISM** (also called *Christening*) is a service in the church when two things happen:

Firstly, it is a sign showing the everlasting love that God has for your child. God gives a sign of his love through his Son Jesus Christ, who died for us all. And in Baptism you bring your child to receive this love through Christ, and also to make promises

Then secondly, it is when you (and the *Godparents*) show your commitment to bring your child up in the Christian faith. It is also when we ask God to help us in bringing up your child, so that your love and care is in partnership with God's.

As well as taking part in the service, there are three things we want you to do, to bring your child up in the Christian faith

**Pray** regularly with your child

**Read the Bible** - there are wonderful Bible stories that you can read to your child

**Come to Church.** The Church is there to help you with teaching your child about the Christian faith, and as a church we hold various different services which are particularly for children and families.

## **GODPARENTS**

A Godparent is someone who promises to assist you in bringing the child up in the Christian faith, and to be an example of Christian living. The Church rules are that there need to be three Godparents (usually two of the same sex as the child). They should have been Baptised themselves (but it doesn't matter if they are not Church of England).

If you want to have more than five Godparents per child, please consult us beforehand.

## **THE PROMISES YOU WILL MAKE**

You and the Godparents will be asked to make some serious promises in the Baptism service, which are important for the child's whole life (*not just on the day of the service*). The questions you will be asked are:

If you will pray for the child, and show by your example how they are to live as a Christian.

If you will care for the child, and if you will bring them to church.

You will also be asked to state your own Christian faith - which you are also stating on behalf of the child. The questions are:

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who made the world?

Do you believe and trust in his Son, Jesus Christ, who redeemed mankind?

Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God?

And you reply to each of those questions, 'I believe and trust in him.'

## **SMALL CHILDREN**

Children are very welcome at Holy Trinity Church. We do have a 'Children's corner' with toys and books for children to explore if they want to (*though a Baptism service usually has so much happening so we do not expect many of them to get bored*).

## **TIME OF THE SERVICE**

The service will be held in the afternoon (*usually about 3.00pm*) and lasts about 25 minutes. It may be that there will be one other family having their child Baptised at the same service as yours - it will still be a very personal service for you and your family, but because of the number of Baptisms we do we occasionally have to 'double-up'. We will tell you beforehand if that is the case. Sometimes, if you want, it can be arranged for the Baptism to happen during our main morning service, which starts at 10.00am (*that service lasts about 1 hour and 15 minutes*).

## **COST OF THE SERVICE**

There is no cost for a Baptism. However, it does cost us about £1000 per week to keep the church open, so we do ask if possible for donations to be made on the plate at the back of church (*it is helpful if you mention that to your guests*).

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**

It is fine to take photos during the service, as long as it is **WITHOUT A FLASH**. There is of course plenty of time to pose for photos after the service is over.

## **ANY QUESTIONS?**

If you have any other questions, please do contact

Rev Tina Upton on:

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