

Thinking about Baptism?



The birth of a baby touches something deep within us and often makes us want to respond to God. In the early church adults were baptised as they came to faith and the custom arose of baptising the whole family together. It is only in relatively recent times that babies have been baptised.

Babies cannot express their own wishes, nor can they make promises to follow Jesus, so these promises are made on their behalf by parents and godparents.

Baptism Service

Baptism is for those who intend to bring their children up in the Christian faith. According to the law and common practice in this country, everyone has the right to be baptised in their local Parish Church. Those who live in the Parish of Breadsall are automatically qualified to be baptised in the church. Where there is a significant qualifying connection we are happy to have a conversation about baptism providing that you are committed to being ongoing members of the church. For those who live outside the Parish and have no intention of an ongoing commitment to being members of Breadsall Church we would encourage you to make contact with your own local church.

***Godparents** are friends or relatives chosen by parents. They will make promises, along with the parents, to help to bring up the child in the Christian faith. They can pray for your child and take part in his/her spiritual life, giving encouragement as he/she grows up. There are usually three godparents. Boys would traditionally have two male and one female godparent, while girls would have two female and one male. It is important that the godparents are baptised themselves. You should choose them carefully.*

Sunday Services

If you don't already do so we would like to invite you to come along to our Sunday services at 10.15am. We always look out for new faces and you would be made to feel welcome. We have a designated Children's area and don't mind some extra noise! The services last just over an hour. The first Sunday in each month is especially for families and younger children. This is very informal and easy to follow with all the words projected on the screen.

We ask both parents to show their commitment by attending church on at least three occasions before the baptism service.



*I baptize you in the name
of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit*

Baptism Preparation

We ask all parents to attend a Baptism Preparation Class where we explore the meaning of Baptism and the promises that you will make on behalf of your child. This will last for about an hour. This will apply for each subsequent child.

Adult/Older Children

Although the norm in the Church of England is to baptise babies/toddlers we are happy to baptise all who are wanting to grow in their faith and show a commitment to church. Sometimes we have baptised adults and children together. Adults can be baptised on their own. We ask that any adult or teen asking for baptism attends a Preparation Class.

Baptism Services

Baptism Services usually take on the third Sunday in the month. This service has two parts. From 10:15am we have a short traditional service with hymns, prayers and a talk. Then we have a short break and resume at 11am for the Baptism part of the service which also includes hymns, prayers and a talk. We ask parents and godparents to come at 10:15am but other invited guests could have the option of coming just for the second part at 11am if they wish.

We have a Babies and Toddler Group, **Minnows**, which meets in church every Tuesday morning during term time from 9am - 11am.
For more information call Jane on 01332 831958

Thanksgiving Service

We can also offer a Thanksgiving Service at church. This would be a simple service thanking God for the birth of a child without the Christian commitments and promises. There would be no godparents.

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Baptism Administrator

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