

How do I book a baptism?

Read this leaflet and then fill in the enclosed form as best you can. Don't worry if you can't complete all the sections yet

Come along to Cafe Worship or Breakfast Club and hand the form to Jim or Jenny and book your date

A member of the clergy will arrange to visit you at home, to help prepare you for your baptism. Before your baptism, attend Cafe Worship, Breakfast Club or any of our other services: this is an opportunity to be welcomed by the church community.

Have your baptism

Attend Breakfast Club in the month after your baptism to receive your certificates

A member of the baptism team will visit you at home after your baptism.

We hope you will then feel able to continue attending Cafe Worship and Breakfast Club as part of your commitment to raising your child within the Christian faith.

We understand that family commitments can get in the way and this isn't always possible, but you will always be welcome whenever you are able to come.

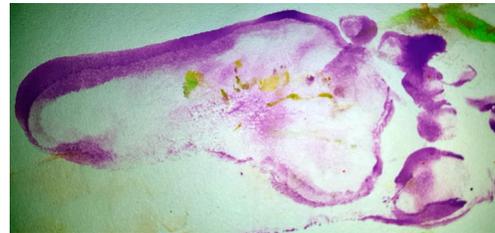
Services at which you can return your baptism application form:

Cafe Worship

9.30am on the first Sunday of every month
In the Parish Hall at Holy Cross
A short, informal service suitable for all ages, alongside cafe refreshments

Breakfast Club

8.45am on the third Sunday of each month
The Parish Hall at Holy Cross
A free breakfast for families, followed by a short time of relaxed worship and learning



**Any questions or concerns?
Don't hesitate to contact us!**

Parish Priests

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timperleyparish.wordpress.com

www.timperleyparish.org.uk

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The Parish of Timperley: Christ Church & Holy Cross

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester



**Information
about Baptisms**

It's great that you'd like your child to be baptised!

Baptism is another word for **Christening**, and it's a time of great celebration for you and your family and friends, and for us as a church.

We welcome all children for baptism. This leaflet will help you to understand a bit more about baptism in the Church of England. It will also explain the process here in Timperley for having your child baptised.

Once you have read the leaflet, if you would like to book a baptism, please read the section "**How do I book a baptism?**" carefully and follow the instructions.

Baptisms usually take place at **12.30pm on Sundays**, after the morning service. There are up to three families celebrating baptisms in any one service. It's really helpful if **parents and godparents arrive by 12.15pm**, so we can go through your responses before the start of the service.

If you would like to hold a service to celebrate your child's birth and life, but are unsure about the commitment involved in baptism, we also offer the alternative of a Service of Thanksgiving. Speak to Jim or Jenny for more information. Contact details are on the back of this leaflet.



What is baptism?

Baptism is about CELEBRATION, THANKSGIVING AND WELCOME

Baptism is:

- A celebration of the child being baptised
- A thanksgiving for their life and for all that God gives them and us
- A welcome into the family of the Church, both worldwide and locally

Through baptism we join a vast family spanning time and space. We commit ourselves to follow Christ and worship God within that family.



Baptism is about PROMISES

God promises:

- To hold the child being baptised in his love and care
- To pour his love upon them constantly
- To give them his forgiveness and healing

Parents and Godparents promise:

- To help the person being baptised to grow within the Christian faith
- To pray for them and to walk beside them on their Christian journey

Baptism is God's promise that no matter what happens to us in life, no matter what we do in life, he will love us with a love that will never let us go.

Baptism is about SYMBOLS

There are lots of symbols in the baptism service, and you'll learn more about these at baptism preparation.

The **water** of baptism is:

- A symbol of our new birth into life with Christ.
- A visible sign of God's love pouring down upon the person being baptised.



The **sign of the cross** made with the oil of baptism is:

- A symbol that the person being baptised belongs to God.
- A symbol that they live and grow as followers of Christ.
- A symbol of the Holy Spirit guiding and strengthening them day by day.



The **lighted candle** is:

- A reminder that Jesus, the light of the world, brings his light into the life of the person being Baptised.
- A reminder that God's light overcomes every darkness in our lives.

