

Thanksgivings – a different journey

If you feel that now is not the time to say those special promises then we do offer a very personal church service, which is different from a christening and can be used as a way to say thank you to God for your child.

It is called a Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child it is a chance to have a family event in which you are able to nominate people who will support you and your child in their lives who are then asked to give the following words of affirmation;

Do you receive these children as a gift from God?

We do.

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

We do.

It's possible to have this service instead of a christening if you decide that now isn't the right time to have your child baptized. Or, you could even have the Thanksgiving service as well as a christening.

You might also choose this service when your baby is just born, or if you have adopted a child into your family and you simply want to celebrate this with special words said by a vicar in church.

We do not charge for either of the services although a donation would be welcome.

Steve Deall (Rector)

revstevedeall@gmail.com



St Nicholas
BRADWELL



Baptism

To clear up any confusion baptism and christening are both names used for the same service.

Jesus made it clear that his followers should be baptised and there are many instances in the New Testament of individual people and whole families being baptised once they have come to faith

Jesus himself was baptised in the river Jordan by John the Baptist at the start of his ministry.

It is wonderful that you are considering baptism for yourself or for your child and we are happy to welcome you and your family at St Nicholas, Bradwell.



Who may be baptised

Anyone who has not been baptised before who normally attends St Nicholas Church or who lives in the parish or has a link, eg through grandparents, may be baptised here.

What to expect

At St Nicholas Church baptisms are usually on the third Sunday of most months in the 10.00am service.

It is important to speak to our Rector Steve Deall at an early stage, before making any plans, to check what dates are available and to make sure there is plenty of time for preparation.

Baptism is the first step to becoming a full member of the church and we hope that children who have been baptised will grow in faith and will later choose for themselves to come and be confirmed by the Bishop.

For adults who have not been baptised as children, baptism and confirmation can take place at the same service, also after a time of preparation

Before the baptism is arranged we ask that you come along for 4 weeks to our main service to give you plenty of time to think about the step you are making on behalf of your child and for you to have time to think about any questions you may have regarding the process.

Once you have been along then we can arrange a meeting with Steve, either at home or in church to best suit you.

At this meeting there will be plenty of opportunity to ask questions and discuss more about faith as well as the practicalities and date of the baptism service itself.

Godparents

It is usual for parents to choose 2, 3 or 4 godparents for their child. Godparents must be baptised – please speak to Steve if you have any concerns before asking people to be godparents.

Parents and Godparents together promise to nurture the children in the Christian faith and to encourage them by their prayers and their example, and have to make a series of promises.

Parents and godparents, the Church receives this child with joy. Today we are trusting God for his growth in faith.

Will you pray for him, draw him by your example into the community of faith and walk with him in the way of Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

In baptism this Child begins his journey in faith.

You speak for him today. Will you care for him, and help him to take his place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

With the help of God, we will.

And also make these declarations

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

I come to Christ.