

HOW TO ARRANGE YOUR CHILD'S BAPTISM

Welcome

We are delighted that you are considering having your child baptised at Saint Leonard's Church. If you live within the parish you are entitled to have your child baptised here. If not, please speak to the vicar as we may still be able to help. (www.achurchnearyou.com/parishmap.php will tell you which parish you live in)

Belonging to the family of the Church

Baptism (or christening) is the Sacrament in which we become part of God's family, the Church. It gives parents an opportunity to thank God for his gift of new life. Parents and Godparents make promises on behalf of the child, to make sure that he or she is brought up as a Christian – which means coming to Church! **Godparents must be adults, and must be baptised themselves.** Please contact the vicar if you would like someone involved in a Godparent capacity who does not meet these criteria. At Saint Leonard's we are pleased to welcome parents and children to our Sunday Worship. On most Sundays at the **10.30am** service you will be able to include your children in Sunday School activities aimed specifically at their age group, if you wish. We look forward to welcoming you!

When is the Baptism Service?

Baptisms are on Sundays, after the **10.30am** Sung Eucharist. Guests are welcome to join us at the **10.30am** service and have a coffee afterwards, or to arrive at **12.15pm** ready for the baptism to start at **12.30pm**. If you would prefer your baptism to take place during the normal Sunday worship service please speak to the vicar.

How much does it cost?

There is no fee for Holy Baptism. In order to continue the ministry of the Church, however, churches must pay their bills like any other family. You are therefore invited to make a donation towards the running of the Church. If you are having a family celebration afterwards it may be helpful to consider the donation in relation to the cost of the party. If you are a tax payer please use the enclosed gift aid envelope. If you complete the details on the envelope we will be able to claim back the tax you have paid as well: **£2.50** for every **£10** you are able to donate, at no extra cost to you!

What do we do now?

Simply call in to one of the Sunday services either **9.00am** Said Eucharist (Book of Common Prayer) or **10.30am** Family Sung Eucharist (Common Worship) and speak to the vicar who will give you a baptism application pack.

Further Information

More information on choosing and planning a baptism within the Church of England can be found online at <https://churchofenglandchristenings.org/>