

Frequently asked questions

Can I book right away? We would normally want to meet you before putting a date in the diary. This is so we can get to know you and make sure this is the right step for you.

When can I have a baptism?

Services can take place during a normal Sunday service at 10.30 or later in the day. If there is a particularly meaningful date we will do our best to accommodate you.

I don't live in Portbury. Can I still have a baptism at St Mary's? Yes

My partner/spouse is not a Christian does this matter? Not as long as both parents give consent and there are no objections.

What about godparents? A godparent is there to be a spiritual guide for your child and to offer

prayerful support. They must be baptised themselves. It is traditional to have at least 2 and one of each sex but you can have up to 4!

Is there a fee? There is no fee for a baptism. However, many people choose to make a donation.

Ways to give: Some of our families like to make voluntary donations. You can give cash or by contactless payment on the day.
Thank you!

Staying in touch

Baptism is the beginning of a Christian life. We would love to keep you informed of all services and events specifically for children and families.

Contact Astrid on 01275 372804
altsamsom@hotmail.com
or Barbara our administrator on
pettybarbara59@gmail.com



Your child's Baptism

Photo

*"Baptism is the first
step of a faithful
heart"*

Thank you for your interest in baptism!

We are really glad you are considering this special and exciting step. Every child is a gift from God and when we baptise a child we are welcoming them into the church as a precious member of God's family. Once baptised it marks the start of a Christian journey which is why it is also often called a Christening. It is an ancient and wonderful fun thing we are doing!

We care for our children in lots of ways and at the root of all these is how we care for their spiritual life, Your child's spiritual life is like a well from which everything else flows. It is how we become the person we are meant to be. The source of all is Jesus Christ who shows us who God

is and how to be. Trusting in Jesus is a wonderful life changing thing to do!

Do please contact us if you would like to discuss a baptism.

God Bless

Revd Astrid Tiesema-Samsom Rector

The Baptism Service begins with a welcome, explanation, prayer and sometimes a song. There is a reading from the Bible and a few words from the minister.

The Decision These are promises that you and the godparents make on behalf of the child in the hope they will grow up to make them for themselves.

Your child will have the sign of the cross traced on their head with a small amount of oil as a sign that they are chosen by God.

Saying what we believe. Everyone says this together and these are some of the most important aspects of what Christians believe. We don't always fully understand but as we begin to trust in God we find ourselves becoming the sort of people we want to be.

After this we pour water and baptise your child!

The service ends with prayers and a blessing. If your child is being baptised as part of a regular Sunday service it may be that the Holy Communion will follow

And that is the end of the service but only the beginning for your child!