

Baptism and Confirmation, 2011



Baptism

In baptism, you as parents are: thanking God for his gift of life, making a decision to start your child on the journey of faith and asking for the Church's support.

For your child, baptism marks the start of a journey of faith, which involves turning away from all that is evil, turning towards Christ and becoming a member of the local and worldwide Christian family.

The role of godparents

Godparents make the same promises on behalf of the child being baptised as parents. Godparents promise to pray and support the child and to help the parents to bring up the child in the Christian faith. It is an important and responsible role.

You should have at least three godparents: two of the same sex as the child and one of the opposite sex. Godparents can be family members or friends. However, it is important that you choose people who will take an interest in your child's spiritual welfare and who will pray for you and your child. Godparents must themselves be baptized, and should also be confirmed.

Confirmation



Confirmation marks the point in the Christian journey at which you affirm for yourself the faith into which you have been baptized and your intention to live a life of committed discipleship. This affirmation is confirmed through prayer and the laying on of hands by the confirming bishop. The Church also asks God to give you power through the Holy Spirit to enable you to live in the way of Jesus.

From the Church of England website

On Sunday 17th July, 2011, we will be delighted to welcome Bishop Edward Holland as we hold a baptism and confirmation service with 17 young people and 4 adults being confirmed and some of them also being baptised. After the service, we will go to the Edward Betham Infant Hall for a reception and Bishop Holland will meet the newly confirmed and sign their certificates and pose for photographs.

Obviously, this will be a rather packed church so please arrive early and try to sit next to other people rather than leave polite (!) gaps between groups. We hope that the congregation will attend in numbers to welcome the newly confirmed and greet them with a rousing round of applause.

Neil Richardson

