

Document Control Information

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St. Bartholomew's, Ducklington Baptism Policy

Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives, the first step in response to God's love. This is a joyful occasion when we rejoice in what God has done for us in Christ, making promises and declaring our faith.

Policy

1. Following a request for baptism, information will be gathered by the administrator and passed on to the Rector. The Rector will then get in contact with the family.
 - a. If the family seeking baptism lives outside the parish, it is the responsibility of the Rector to seek the goodwill of their local parish priest.
 - b. Those living in the parish have a right to be baptised at the parish church.
2. The Rector will then meet with the family preferably in person. To explore their decision for baptism.
3. The most appropriate date and time, will be arranged and recorded in 'The Life Events diary' this could be within the service or as a separate service.
4. Infant Baptism
 - When parents choose godparents for their child, the godparents must be baptised.
 - There shall be no fewer than three godparents, of whom a least two shall be of the same sex as the child and of whom at least one should be of the opposite sex. When this isn't possible there needs to be at least one godmother and godfather – one of which can be a parent.
 - Baptism is a marker in one's journey of faith and we would be delighted if the family would like to stay in touch with the church, given GDPR approval and therefore maintaining communication regarding services.
 - Baptism cards to be sent for the following four years or up to the fourth birthday.
5. Adult Baptism
 - Following a request for adult baptism, information will be gathered by the administrator and passed on to the Rector. The Rector will then get in contact with the individual.
 - The Rector will then meet with the individual to explore their decision for baptism and journey together to explore the Christian faith.
 - The most appropriate date and time, will be arranged and recorded in 'The Life Events diary' this could be within the service or as a separate service.
 - The Rector will then inform the bishop of the baptism at least a week before the service.
 - As the individual's faith grows the hope is that this will then lead to Confirmation.
6. Canon Laws B21-25 will be followed