

## **A prayer for the newly baptised**

Today God has touched you with his love  
and given you a place among his people.

God promises to be with you  
in joy and in sorrow,  
to be your guide in life,  
and to bring you safely to heaven.  
In baptism God invites you on a life-long journey.  
Together with all God's people  
you must explore the way of Jesus  
and grow in friendship with God,  
in love for his people,  
and in serving others.  
Together we will listen to the word of God  
and receive the gifts of God.

### **From the Bible**

Jesus said, "let the little children come to me and do  
not hinder them." Matthew 19 v 14

All of us who were baptised into Christ Jesus were  
baptised into his death... in order that, just as Christ  
Jesus was raised from the dead, we too may live a  
new life." Romans 6 v4



**HESWALL  
PARISH**

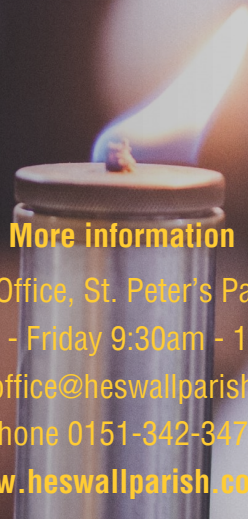
### **More information**

The Parish Office, St. Peter's Parish Centre  
Monday - Friday 9:30am - 12:30pm  
Email [office@heswallparish.co.uk](mailto:office@heswallparish.co.uk)  
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[www.heswallparish.co.uk](http://www.heswallparish.co.uk)

# **Baptism Christening**

**Welcoming you and your child  
to St Peter's Church, Heswall**

**"A people fully alive in Christ  
building God's kingdom"**





## A Christening (or Baptism)

Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives, the first step of faith in response to God's love. For all involved, but especially parents and godparents, it is a special time to rejoice in your own baptism, to recall what God has done for you in Jesus, to renew your faith and to re-commit yourselves to being part of Christ's church and bringing your child up within the church.

### What to do now

1. Look at the Church of England's website to see what baptism is all about [www.churchofenglandchristenings.org](http://www.churchofenglandchristenings.org)
2. Come along to St. Peter's for Sunday worship at least once a month. - 9am (traditional), 10.45am (informal with kids groups) or 6.45pm (youth led)
3. Sign up for your Baptism Preparation Course - 4 online sessions which we run 8-9pm on a Thursday evenings, every term. Godparents are invited too.

4. Arrange a Baptism Date. Generally on 3rd Sunday of the month at 10.45am. We offer other Sundays at 9am.
5. Meet your Baptism Buddy - a person, or family who will help you get to know St. Peter's and support you as you prepare for your child's Baptism.
6. Invite your guests to the Baptism Service. We'll provide a link to the service which includes helpful information for them to be part of the congregation.
7. Join our next Alpha Course to continue your journey of faith
8. Bring your child with you to church and take part in the things we do.

### A few other considerations

**Does it matter where I live?** The Church of England welcomes people to their own Parish church. However at St. Peter's we do consider requests from those outside the Parish if you are intending to join the church and worship regularly with us.

**Parents** need to be baptised yourselves. If not, there's no problem, we can talk about baptizing you too. Likewise, unmarried parents are very welcome but we will explain why Christians value marriage as the basis of family life.

**Godparents** also affirm their Christian faith, so you need to choose people who can do this with integrity. We encourage you to invite Godparents to join our 4 online Baptism Preparation sessions

**Wanting something different?** If you prefer not to make the declarations of faith or the promises expressed in a Baptism Service, then we also offer a Service of Thanksgiving instead. We can include this in a regular Sunday service or arrange as a separate family celebration to suit you. Just ask.

**Older children?** Infant Baptism is offered to parents who speak on behalf of your baby or young child. If your child is older and can speak for themselves then we welcome them to be part of our children's work. We will help them develop their own Christian faith so they can talk about it at their Baptism.