

The Church of Saint Paul the Apostle, Tottenham

## The BAPTISM of my CHILD



Application form

## Having Your Child Baptised

Congratulations! You have a new baby and you want to have him or her baptised. What you are asking for is very important because in Baptism your child, who is already a loved part of your family, will become a loved part of God's family – he or she will become a child of God. The love that God has for you and your child is reflected in the love that you have for your child. He cares for your family and in Baptism your child will become part of that world-wide family that is the Church.

Baptism is one of the seven Sacraments of the Church. A Sacrament is a sign of God's love for us in our world; in the Sacraments the Church continues the mission of Jesus himself today. Baptism is a Sacrament of initiation – in other words in Baptism we are initiated into the life of the Church – we become Christians, followers of Jesus. Jesus himself told his followers: **Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.** (*Matthew 28:19-20*).

And from the very earliest days of the Church, the Christian community has baptised children, since it is a grace and free gift from God.

As parents, you have a very special role in bringing up your child in the faith. In the Sacrament of Baptism you take on very serious responsibilities as you promise before God to help your child on the way of Christian living. In this you will be helped by the Godparents you choose, who must also be firm believers and who will share with you the responsibility of helping your child to grow in faith. This will mean that you will bring your child to Mass, teach him or her about God and how to pray, explain the difference between right and wrong and bring your child up within a loving family. The Church tells us that you, as parents, are the first and best educators of your child in the faith. No one can do it better than you. To help you to do this and to help you to prepare for the Sacrament, we have a short course, and if you fill in the form in this leaflet you will be sent details of when the next course is due to take place.

## Baptism Application Form

Child's full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(inc postcode):

Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Godparents: 1: \_\_\_\_\_

2: \_\_\_\_\_

3: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note that Godparents MUST be baptised and at least one should be confirmed. It is traditional for their to be two Godparents of the same sex as the child and on of the opposite sex, though you can if wish choose more than three.*