



## Baptism and Thanksgiving

We're delighted that you're thinking about having a service of **Baptism** or **Thanksgiving** for your child at **St John's Community Church**. Whichever type of service you choose, they are both incredibly special occasions where we join with you in giving thanks to God for the gift of your child, celebrate his love for them, and pray for his blessing to be on them.

Here are some details outlining what the services of **Baptism** and **Thanksgiving** are about, and the differences between the two options:

**Baptism** for babies and children is often called a Christening. In this service parents thank God for his gift of life, make a decision to start their child on a journey of Christian faith and godparents promise help and support. The church also promises to welcome the child and to pray for the family. For your child, being baptized at a Christening marks the start of a lifelong journey of faith as part of the local and worldwide Christian family.

Alternatively, some parents might want to celebrate the gift of a child with a service of **Thanksgiving**. During this service, parents and families give thanks for the birth or adoption of a child and everyone prays for family life. A Thanksgiving service is not a Baptism - there are no promises to make about the Christian faith - but the child will be blessed and prayed for, and supporting friends and the wider church promise to support the parents in bringing up their child.



### St John's Community Church, Chase Terrace & Boney Hay

High Street,  
Chase Terrace,  
Burntwood,  
WS7 1LR

Tel: 01543 670078

Email: [info@stjohnscommunitychurch.org.uk](mailto:info@stjohnscommunitychurch.org.uk)

Web: [www.stjohnscommunitychurch.org.uk](http://www.stjohnscommunitychurch.org.uk)

To find out more about having a service of **Baptism** or **Thanksgiving** for your child, please complete the form opposite and return it to the Church Office. Likewise, if you have any questions, do please just get in touch with Marie, our administrator at the Church Office:

St John's Community Church Office,  
High Street  
Chase Terrace,  
Burntwood,  
WS7 1LR

Tel: 01543 670078

Email: [info@stjohnscommunitychurch.org.uk](mailto:info@stjohnscommunitychurch.org.uk)

The Parish Office is open every weekday from 9.00am - 1.00pm

Once we receive your form, Marie will be in touch to agree a date with you for the service. Since a service of Baptism or Thanksgiving is an important public step, they normally take place in our regular 10.30am Sunday morning services.

Nearer the date of the service, Matt the vicar will contact you to arrange a convenient time to meet at your home. During this visit, there will be an opportunity to go over the service in more detail, and gets answers to any questions that you may have.

**Please complete this form and return it to the Parish Office:**

Details about your child:

First name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Details about you - Mother:

Christian name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Address (please tick if same as above)

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Details about you - Father:

First name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Address (please tick if same as above)

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (please tick if same as above)

Godparents / Sponsors:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Thank You. Please don't make any arrangements until after we've been in touch with you, when a suitable date for the service can then be arranged.

