



### Water

The priest will bless the water in the font to set it apart for baptism; he will then pour water over your child's head three times, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Water is a sign of washing and cleansing. In baptism it is a sign of being washed free from sin and beginning a new life with God.

### Oil

The priest will then anoint the crown of the child's head with the oil of Chrism, a sign of the gift of the Holy Spirit.



### Candle

Jesus is called the Light of the World. The priest will light a candle from the Easter candle as a sign of the light which has come into your child's life.

*You have received the light of Christ;  
Walk in this light  
all the days of your life.  
Shine as a light in the world  
to the glory of God the Father*

### The Welcome

The Church congregation will say some words of welcome

*We welcome you into the Lord's family.  
We are members together of the Church,  
the Body of Christ,  
children of the same heavenly father,  
and inheritors of the Kingdom of God.*

### Some Useful Information...

If you wish to make a booking for a Baptism please come to the parish office in All Saints Church on Monday evenings between 7pm & 7.30pm

When you book your child's baptism you will need to supply some basic information so that the parish register can be completed.

You can choose as many godparents as you wish, (with a minimum of three)

They must all be baptised themselves and at least one of them must be confirmed.

A priest will arrange to come and see you in the week before the baptism and go through the service and answer any questions that you may have.

*You are asked not to take any photographs or to use video cameras during the service but may do so afterwards.*

**A Sacrament is God's gift to us  
and so there is no charge for a baptism.**

If you wish to make a donation to the Church as a thanksgiving for your child's baptism you are welcome to do so.

If you are tax payer you are encouraged to use a Gift Aid envelope; please ask for more information.

If you require any other information or have any questions please phone the parish office on 01656 786899

[www.parishofporthcawl.org](http://www.parishofporthcawl.org)

Email: [office@parishofporthcawl.org](mailto:office@parishofporthcawl.org)

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THE PARISH OF  
NEWTON NOTTAGE  
PORTHCAWL

## HOLY BAPTISM



*A Guide  
to the Sacrament of  
Baptism.*

## What is Baptism?

*Baptism is the beginning of a lifelong journey of faith. This starts by turning towards Christ and becoming a member of his local and worldwide church.*

## Why Baptism?

Jesus himself was baptised in the River Jordan by John the Baptist. This marks the beginning of his public ministry and the sharing of the Good News. Jesus, at the end of Matthew's gospel, then told his disciples to baptise others as a sign that they had turned away from their old way of life and begun a new life as Christ's disciples, members of his body.

Baptism often took place in a river: new Christians were dipped under the water, making their death to an old way of life, and lifted up again as a sign of new birth. Today in most churches a "Font" (the word means 'spring of water') is used which holds the water which is used to pour over the child's head.

Baptism is one of the sacraments of the church, physical signs which show his love for his people



## Decisions & Promises

*When you bring your Child for baptism, you will be asked to declare that you believe in God and that you will bring your child up as a Christian to follow Jesus. This has implications for your own life as well as your child's - **you can't ask a child to do something you are unwilling to do yourself.***

*The Christian community will promise to support you and pray for you and your child as you grow in the faith.*

## What happens in a Baptism?

Your child's baptism will take place during the main Sunday service. This is to show that your child is joining the family of the Church and will be welcomed into the church.

As you offer your child for baptism the priest will explain what baptism is about and ask if you and the godparents are willing to accept the responsibilities which you will have. The Baptism takes place after the sermon, when you and the godparents gather with the priest around the font.

Your child will be signed with the sign of the cross and you then make the affirmation of faith and baptismal covenant .

The water is blessed by the priest and then your child is baptised. After this your child is anointed with oil and a lighted candle is handed over as sign of the Light Christ alone can give.

## The Affirmation of Faith & Baptismal Covenant.



During the service you will be asked the following questions

Do you turn to Christ?  
**I turn to Christ.**

Do you repent of your sins?  
**I repent of my sins.**

Do you reject evil?  
**I reject evil.**

Do you believe in God the Father, the Creator of all?

**I believe and trust in God the Father**

Do you believe in his Son Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world?

**I believe and trust in God the Son**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life?

**I believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit**

## Important Symbols

during the baptism a variety of symbols are used:

### The sign of the Cross

The priest will make the sign of the cross on your child's forehead. This is like an invisible badge to show that Christians are united with Christ and must be never ashamed to stand up for their faith.

