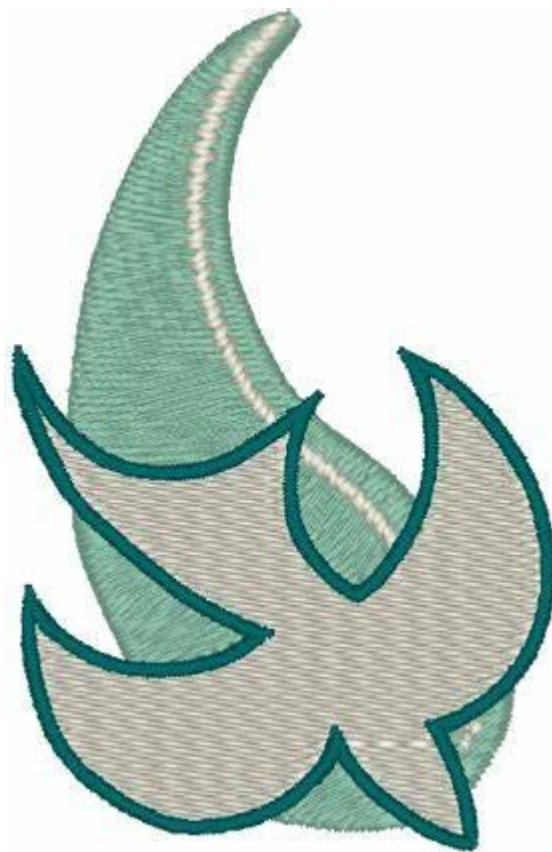


The Parish Church of St Lawrence Hatfield

Holy Baptism



Welcome & Introduction

Jesus said, 'I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly'

Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives. It is the first step in response to God's love.

Opening Prayer

Heavenly Father,
by the power of your Holy Spirit
you give to your faithful people new life in the water of baptism.
Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit,
that we who are born again may serve you in faith and love,
and grow into the full stature of your Son, Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit
now and for ever.

Amen.

Reading /Talk

Presentation

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Do not stop them'.

We thank God for *N who has* come to be baptized today.

Christ loves *them* and welcomes *them* into his Church.

So, I ask all here present;

Will you support *these children as they begin their* journey of faith?

We will.

Will you help *them* to live and grow within God's family?

We will.

The Minister addresses the parents and godparents

God knows each of us by name and we are his.
Parents and godparents, you speak for *N* today.

Will you pray for *them*, and help *them* to follow Christ?

We will.

For those who can answer for themselves

Do you wish to be baptized?

I do.

The Decision

We all wander far from God and lose our way:
Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home.
In baptism we respond to his call.

Therefore, Parents & Godparents I ask:

Or for those who are able answer for themselves

Do you turn away from sin?

I do.

Do you reject evil?

I do.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I do.

Do you trust in him as Lord?

I do.

Signing with the Cross

*The Minister makes the sign of the cross
using the Oil of Catechumens on the forehead, saying*

Christ claims you for his own. + Receive the sign of his cross.

Do not be ashamed of Christ. You are his for ever.

We all say

**Stand bravely with him
against all the powers of evil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God + deliver you from the powers of darkness,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

Amen.

We move towards the font.

Prayer over the Water

We praise you, loving Father,
for the gift of your Son Jesus.
He was baptized in the River Jordan,
where your Spirit came upon him
and revealed him as the Son you love.
He sent his followers
to baptize all who turn to him.
Now, Father, we ask you to + bless this water,
that those who are baptized in it
may be cleansed in the water of life,
and, filled with your Spirit,
may know that they are loved as your children,
safe in Christ for ever.

Amen.

Profession of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Baptism

The Minister pours water on them, saying

N, I baptize you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Minister anoints the newly Baptized with the Oil of Chrism

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church,
pour upon you the riches of his grace,
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

Amen.

We return to our seats

The Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
N, by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

We say together

**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father;
we welcome you.**

The Lord's Prayer

As your children, born again in Christ, we say

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

The Blessing

The God of all grace,
who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus,
establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith;
and the blessing of God almighty,
+ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Giving of a Lighted Candle

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

We all say

**Shine as a light in the world,
to the glory of God the Father.**

The Dismissal

Go in the light and peace of Christ!

We all say

Thanks be to God

Our service is now over, please feel free to use the space to take photo's

*If anything from today has struck a chord with you,
the Clergy would be very happy to meet and carry on the conversation.*

Common Worship: Christian Initiation,
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