**Would you like to book a Christening for your child?**

Here is the information you need to know.

**What is a Christening or baptism?**

Your child is precious to you and to God. You want the very best for their life, and so does God. You want them to make right choices in life, for themselves and for others.A Christening is just the beginning of this and so much more. In baptism, we thank God for his gift of life and publicly acknowledge his love. In the Anglican Church it is common to baptise young children; this is sometimes known as christening. Baptism is a 'sacrament' (holy ritual to symbolise grace) in the Christian tradition that is traced back to Jesus himself being baptised in the river Jordan.

Over the years to come, it’s a journey you’ll share together with your child by:

* Bing there for your child to talk about the bigger questions of life- questions about hope, faith and love.
* Praying for your child through the ups and downs of their faith journey.
* Showing them practically how to make those good choices in life.
* Helping them to learn more about the Christian faith, through their church and in other ways.

So, it's, a commitment to start as you mean to go on.

If you haven't been christened as a child, you can be baptised at any age!

**You can be Christened or Baptised at St Paul’s or St John’s, if you live in either parish or in the Heatons Team, or have a connection with us.**

St Paul’s and St John’s are 2 churches within the Heatons Team. The other churches are St Thomas Heaton Chapel and Christ with All Saints Heaton Norris.

If you are not sure what parish you live in, please just ask Rev. Liz and she will help you.

If you do not life in any of the Parishes in the Heatons Team, we can only offer you a Christening, if you have another connection with us, for example, you have older children who were baptised here, or you were married here, or you are a member of our regular congregation. Please ask and we can talk you through it.

If you would like to talk to us about baptism, please contact

Rev. Liz Rowles by emailing revlizrowles@outlook.com.

Rev. Liz will arrange a time to meeting to talk through what happens next and invite you to get to know us better.

We do expect you at attend church prior to the baptism and hope this is the beginning of a relationship with the church and you and your child.

We only offer baptism on a Sunday either in our regular morning service at 09:30 or 10:30 or at 1pm. When you meet with Rev Liz she will discuss a possible date for the christening, which will then be confirmed.

Please approach us first before booking any celebration or party- we have had to disappoint people when we have not been able to baptise on the date they have chosen.

**Some things to think about.**

Being baptised or christened is joining the Chrsitina faith, so there is quite a lot to think about before you do it and we would like to help you do this.

We would like to get to know you before we baptise you or your children, so you will be invited to our worship services. We will also invite you to a short preparation meeting to discuss what christening means and what will happen in the service. The Godparents will be invited too. Rev Liz can let you know possible dates for this.

Our services are :

**St Paul’s** First Sunday of the Month- Family Service 10:30am

Other Sundays 09:30.

We have a Sunday school, alongside the service on the third Sunday of the month.

**Little Fishes Playgroup** (0-4 yr olds term time only) Thursday morning 09:30-11:30am. In the Church Hall.

**St John’s** Every Sunday at 11:15am

Please visit <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15829/> for more information about St Paul’s church or

 <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15828/> For more information about St John’s Church.

For more information about Christenings in the Church of England, please visit <https://www.churchofengland.org/life-events/christenings>

**Information about Christenings**

**or Baptisms**



 **St Paul’s Heaton Moor**

**&**

 **St John’s Heaton Mersey**