



Baptism is the gift of our Lord Jesus Christ. It marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives, the first step in response to God's love. For all involved it is a joyful moment when we rejoice in what God has done for us in Christ. Family, friends and the wider community of the Church gather in welcome, promising support and prayer for the future.

Baptism is a sacrament of belonging. It is a celebration of a new beginning in becoming a member of Christ's body, the Church. Baptism immerses us in the new life given to us through the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter. When we come for baptism we are saying "yes" to God's love and desire for us to belong to the community of God's people. We are baptised into membership of the universal Christian Church, not merely as members of a particular denomination or parish.

Christian parents bring their children for baptism because they want them to be part of the community of faith. Parents and Godparents (or Sponsors in the case of older children and adults) make promises on behalf of the children they bring for baptism. They also take on the responsibility of raising their children as active members of the church. In the Christian life, we are not alone. God provides us companions on the way and we share our faith and our struggles with the community of the Church. In baptism, the Church says "yes" to you. Welcome!

Preparation

Before taking any significant step in life, it is appropriate to prepare for it. The same is true in beginning the Christian life with baptism. When we bring children to be baptised, the parents and godparents need to prepare for their new responsibilities. In baptismal preparation we seek to explore our faith and to understand the promises being made at baptism. Baptismal preparation is arranged before the date of each baptism through making an appointment with the Vicar.

Parents & Godparents (Sponsors)

In bringing a child to be baptised in the Church we seek to give the child something of value which we already have: active membership in the Church and the joy of the Christian life. Children are baptised in response to the faith of their parents who, together with the Godparents, make the Baptismal Promises on behalf of the child. Godparents have an important part to play in the Christian life and nurture of their godchild. They should be chosen with great care. Godparents or sponsors do not need to be Anglican, but they must be baptised themselves, and they should be practicing Christians who are worshipping members of a church.

Godparents – Names in full:

1.....

Baptised Yes No

2.....

Baptised Yes No

3.....

Baptised Yes No

Godparents have an important role to play. Along with the parents, they give a commitment to see to the child's 'upbringing in the church.'

Signatures of Parents:

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The Anglican Parish of
**Holy Trinity Lara with
Christ Church Little River**

Holy Trinity
Corner of Curleets & Flinders Avenue Lara
Christ Church Rothwell Road Little River

59 Flinders Avenue
LARA VIC 3212
Phone: 03 5282 6487

Parish Email: parlara@bigpond.net.au
www.laralittleriveranglican.com

Application for Baptism

Date of Service/...../.....

Please tick the appropriate box

Time: 10:00 am Holy Trinity Lara

4:00 pm Christ Church Little River

Date of Baptism Preparation/...../.....

Candidate Details

First /Second

Names:.....

Surname of Candidate:

Date of Birth:/...../.....

Parents-Names in full:

Mother:

Occupation:.....

Baptised Yes No

Father:

Occupation:.....

Baptised Yes No

Address:

.....

Phone:

Email:.....

Please fill in this form and return it to the Parish Office at least a month before the Service of Baptism to enable time for Baptism Preparation.

The signs and symbols of baptism

Water:

The 'passing through' of the water of baptism, where we believe we die to sin and are raised to new life, unites us to Christ's dying and rising. Water is also a sign of new life, as we are born again by water and the Spirit.

Sign of the Cross:

A sign on something shows its origins or ownership. The sign of the cross is the mark of Christians because Jesus Christ died on the cross. The minister traces it on the child's forehead to show that the baby belongs to Christ.

Oil:

Oil of Chrism is a mixture of olive oil and balsam (sweet smelling ointment) and may be rubbed or poured on the crown of the head. It is a sign of the pouring out of God's love and the sealing with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The oil is blessed by the bishop during Holy Week, the week leading up to Easter Day.

Baptismal Candle:

As a sign of new life, a lighted candle is presented, a picture of the light of Christ conquering the darkness of evil. Everyone who is baptized walks in that light for the rest of their lives. In due time they are encouraged to make their own response to God, and be prepared for Confirmation.

Baptismal Register:

Each person being baptized will be issued with a certificate and recorded in the Baptismal Register of the Parish, and godparents or sponsors will also be given a Certificate. In the years ahead, proof of baptism may be obtained by producing this Certificate, or having a certificate issued on the basis of this Registration.

BAPTISM



The Anglican Parish Of Lara with Little River

Holy Trinity

Corner of Curlests & Flinders Avenue Lara

Christ Church

Rothwell Road Little River

Phone: 03 5282 6487

Parish Email: parlara@bigpond.net.au

www.laralittleriveranglican.com

Vicar: The Reverend Roxanne Addley

THE LORD WHO CREATED YOU SAYS,
'I HAVE CALLED YOU BY NAME — YOU ARE MINE'.
(ISAIAH 43:1 TEV)