



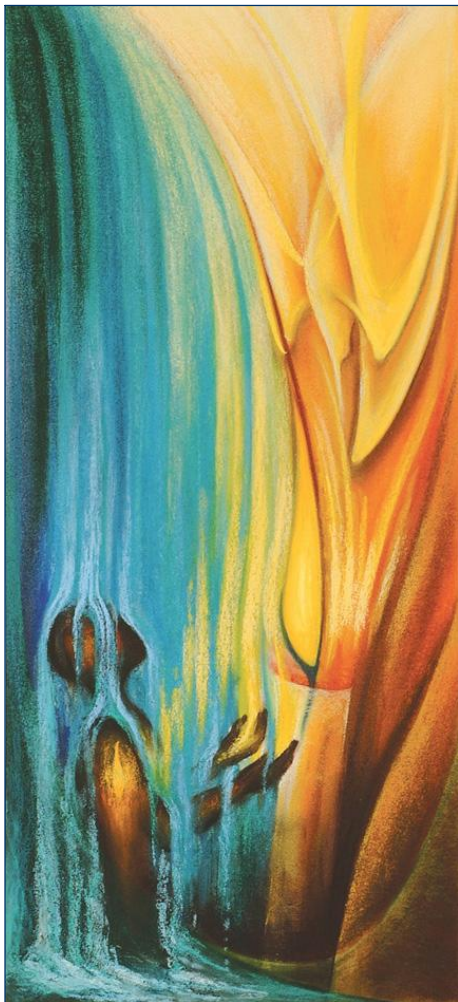
KINGS NORTON TEAM PARISH

St Nicolas, Hawkesley and Immanuel

Baptism

Enquirer's Leaflet

*...in the name of the Father and
of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*



Contact Details:

The Parish Office: 81 The Green, Kings Norton, Birmingham B38 8RU

Telephone: 0121 458 3289

Emails: parishoffice@kingsnorton.org.uk Website: www.kingsnorton.org.uk

Booking times:

6.30 pm—7.30 pm every Thursday in St Nicolas on The Green

A recent Church of England publication on baptism says:

“Baptism is about beginning, believing and belonging.”

Thank you for asking about baptism. We are delighted that you want to accept God’s free gift and we hope this leaflet helps us to plan together. Baptism is so important for us all - for you, for your child, for godparents and for us too. In the service of baptism the church welcomes a new sister or brother in Christ and in the case of a child, you promise to bring up your child as a Christian in the family of the church.

What you need to know

I. Baptism for children

If as parents you currently live in the parish and at least one of you has been baptised, then please complete the baptism booking form (see opposite page regarding godparents) and return it to the booking clerks on any Thursday evening between 6.30 and 7.30 pm in St Nicolas Church. We will then find the best date and time for the baptism service. This will usually be at a special service at 4pm on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, although in some circumstances we may offer baptism as part of our Sunday services at 10.30 am or 6 pm.

If as parents you do not live in Kings Norton Parish or worship here it may still be possible to have your child’s baptism here—if there is a good reason. However, **before you can book the baptism**, you will need to speak with one of the clergy here and also the vicar in whose parish you live.

Choosing Godparents

- **They must be baptised and over 16**
- If possible at least one of them should be confirmed, or have been baptised as an adult, so that they have made the baptism promises for themselves.
- The most traditional pattern is to have two godparents of the same gender as the child, and one of the opposite.
- The most common pattern nowadays is to have two couples.

They can belong to another **Christian** denomination (e.g. Methodist, Catholic), and do not have to be Church of England.

Please note—If any of your proposed godparents have not been baptised, then you will need a conversation with a member of clergy, **before you can confirm** the date of your child's baptism.

2. Baptism for adults

If you are an adult seeking baptism then you will need a conversation with one of our clergy, so that we can make the best arrangements for your baptism as a big step in your journey in God's love. Adult baptisms would normally take place within the context of a 10.30 am or 6 pm Sunday service.

How much does it cost?

Baptism is free, because it is about the free gift of God's love, life and forgiveness for all who are baptised. We believe that he gives this through the death and rising again of Jesus. And we show this in the signs of the cross, the water and the baptism candle that we use in the service.

We do, however, ask you to think and pray about a donation to the church, and to invite your family and friends to give generously to the collection in the service as a way of giving thanks. It costs us approximately £800 each week to keep St Nicolas open for you and others to come and use.

We look forward to helping you discover more about baptism.

Canon Rob Morris (Rector)

Revd John White (Team Vicar)

Revd Jayne Crooks (Team Priest)