

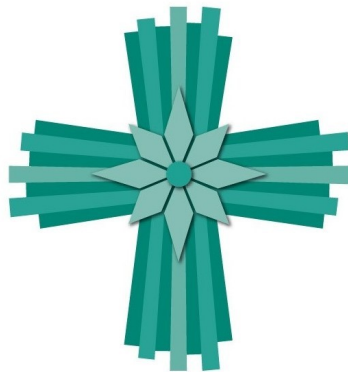
To be a godparent

- You must be baptised
- You must be over 16
- Belong to another Christian denomination (e.g. Methodist, Roman Catholic), and do not have to be Church of England.

Questions?

You will probably have lots of questions—don't worry just come along and have a chat with us and we will help guide you.

It is also a good idea to come to church! Our main service is at 1030am each Sunday with different styles and activities. You will be made very welcome.



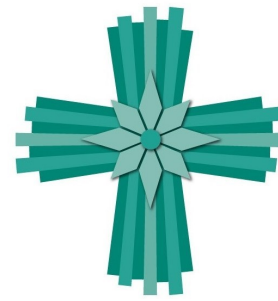
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KINGS NORTON TEAM PARISH



baptism

Godparents

CHRISTENINGS at St NICOLAS

Being a godparent is a great privilege. It is a role of support, encouragement and friendship and means that your friends or family trust you to help them to bring up their child as a Christian.

Baptism is the beginning of a life-long faith journey. Along with the child's parents, you will make promises before God, your family and friends on behalf of your godchild to bring them up as Christians. You will promise to help them live and grow as part of God's family; to pray for them and help them to follow Christ.

At the Baptism you will publicly state that you believe in God and in Jesus. You may have many questions and uncertainties about what you believe and that's ok, you are not expected to know all the answers.

Being a godparent is not the same as being a legal guardian but the promises you will make in the service are important and serious ones. You don't need to know everything about God or the church but be prepared to talk about your Christian faith and your beliefs, to pray for and with them and to share stories about God and Jesus.

What will happen

At the christening your godchild will be baptised with water. Water, which is blessed in the church's font, will be poured over their head by the vicar. This is the moment of baptism. This is the heart of your godchild's christening, although there are several special moments

- * The vicar will pray for your godchild and for all those who will support them in their journey of faith.
- * You and the parents will make some important promises for your godchild in the service.
- * Holy oil will be used to make the sign of the cross on your godchild's forehead. This is like an invisible badge, there forever, to show that child belongs to God.

Promises

These are the promises you will make as a godparent:

God knows each of us by name and we are his. Parents and godparents, you speak for *N and N* today. Will you pray for *them*, and help *them* to follow Christ?

We will.

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 I ask:

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.**

Becoming a godparent may raise many questions for you about your own faith and about what baptism means, so you are welcome to attend the preparation session that your godchild's parents will attend to discover more. In fact, we would be delighted to meet you and help you prepare for the service and hopefully make it a more meaningful service for you too.