

MORECAMBE PARISH CHURCH

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19:14



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We're delighted you want us to host a special service to welcome your child into the world and the Church. We hope this service will be meaningful and joyful for you as a family, and so it is well worth being properly prepared. Before we go any further, it's important to understand the two services we offer.

A Thanksgiving & Naming service

No promises are made
No need to attend church beforehand, though of course we'd love to see you
No preparation needed
A celebration including prayers
BUT no water
Baptism can always follow later if you wish

A Baptism service

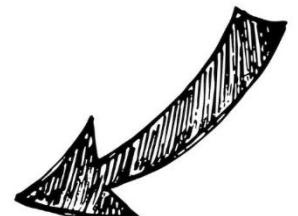
Parents and Godparents make important promises
Attend one of our Church services beforehand so we can offer you a warm welcome
Complete one Baptism preparation evening where the promises are explained
A celebration including prayers AND water



If I choose a Thanksgiving and Naming service, what else do I need to do? Come along to our church drop in on Tuesday afternoons from 3.30 – 6pm or contact our church office: 01524 422211

If I choose a Baptism service, what happens now?

Read on...



In the Church of England, baptism (also known as christening) marks the beginning of a journey with God. Candidates are welcomed into the Church family and make promises to follow Jesus. Of course, babies and little children are too young to make these decisions for themselves, so parents and godparents make these promises on their child's behalf.



Parents and godparents should be prepared to make these promises:

Will you support this child as they begin their journey of faith? **We will.**

Will you help this child to live and grow within God's family? **We will.**

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.

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 him as Lord? **I do.**

To be as ready as possible for the big day, we ask that you:

Attend one of our services:

The details of our services are found on the back of this booklet. At the end of the service, one of our Baptism co-ordinators will help you book a date for your child's baptism and invite you to a preparation evening.

Choose your godparents:

It's normal for children to have 3 godparents who will commit to helping your child live and grow within God's family. They must have been baptised themselves.

Attend a Baptism preparation evening:

These normally take place on the first Monday of the month at 7.30pm and last for about an hour. The evening offers a relaxed opportunity for parents and godparents to meet the clergy and any other baptism families. There will be time to discuss the service, answer any questions and pray for your child.

Baptisms are free services in the Church of England. There is **no** charge. However, there is an opportunity after the service for you and your guests to donate to the church if you wish. We are a charity and appreciate any donation, no matter how small or large.

Service times:

Sunday at 9am

Family friendly 'Awaken' service with games, songs, stories, crafts and refreshments

Sunday at 10.30am

Parish Eucharist

Thursday at 11.30am

Quiet Communion

Every 2nd Sunday of the month

10am Altogether Service

You may also like to join us at our Parent and Toddler group, Poulton Playtime. We meet on Tuesdays at 10am in the Memorial Hall.

