



## Having your child baptised in Louth

Thank you for enquiring about having your child baptised (also known as Christened) in one of Louth's parish churches. This leaflet is intended to give you a little information so that you can fill out the Application Form and help us to make your child's baptism a meaningful event in their life.

When you 'phoned up to enquire, we were probably able to offer an idea of which dates might be possible for a Baptism to take place. However, as we have many requests please do not confirm a date, time and place to anyone until the Application Form has been returned, and we have confirmed the arrangements with you.

### What is Baptism?

Baptism is the mark of becoming a member of the church. It is often also the first public ceremony in a young child's life and marks their membership not only of the Christian faith, but of the local community.

In the service we remind ourselves of what Christians believe and then welcome a new member by baptising them (with water) and christening them (with oil). These are two symbols of new life that we understand comes from following Christ in our daily lives. At the end of the service the newly baptised person is given a lighted candle as a sign that they go out of the church building and into the world as a sign of God's love for creation.



## Having your child baptised in Louth

Thank you for enquiring about having your child baptised (also known as Christened) in one of Louth's parish churches. This leaflet is intended to give you a little information so that you can fill out the Application Form and help us to make your child's baptism a meaningful event in their life.

When you 'phoned up to enquire, we were probably able to offer an idea of which dates might be possible for a Baptism to take place. However, as we have many requests please do not confirm a date, time and place to anyone until the Application Form has been returned, and we have confirmed the arrangements with you.

### What is Baptism?

Baptism is the mark of becoming a member of the church. It is often also the first public ceremony in a young child's life and marks their membership not only of the Christian faith, but of the local community.

In the service we remind ourselves of what Christians believe and then welcome a new member by baptising them (with water) and christening them (with oil). These are two symbols of new life that we understand comes from following Christ in our daily lives. At the end of the service the newly baptised person is given a lighted candle as a sign that they go out of the church building and into the world as a sign of God's love for creation.

### **When baptisms normally take place**

Most baptisms take place at 3pm on a Sunday afternoon.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month this service takes place at St. Michael's Church, Church Street, Louth.

On other Sunday's of the month we can arrange a service in any of the other churches in the parish: (St. James, Westgate – Trinity, Eastgate – St. Martin's, Welton – All Saints, South Elkington – St. Andrew Stewton)

If you wish to have your child baptised during the main Sunday service at one of our churches, please contact The Rev'd Nick Brown (603213) or The Rev'd Steve Johnson (604730) to arrange a possible date.

### **Godparents**

A child being baptised must have at least two godparents (though normally people choose to have three people as godparents). The role of the godparent is to take an ongoing interest in the growth and development of the child – in particular encouraging them morally and spiritually. For this reason it is important that they have themselves been baptised (and preferably also confirmed).

### **To make a booking**

Please complete the enclosed form and return it to: The Deanery Office, 6 Upgate, Louth LN11 9ET. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call us on 01507 610247.

### **When baptisms normally take place**

Most baptisms take place at 3pm on a Sunday afternoon.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month this service takes place at St. Michael's Church, Church Street, Louth.

On other Sunday's of the month we can arrange a service in any of the other churches in the parish: (St. James, Westgate – Trinity, Eastgate – St. Martin's, Welton – All Saints, South Elkington – St. Andrew Stewton)

If you wish to have your child baptised during the main Sunday service at one of our churches, please contact The Rev'd Nick Brown (603213) or The Rev'd Steve Johnson (604730) to arrange a possible date.

### **Godparents**

A child being baptised must have at least two godparents (though normally people choose to have three people as godparents). The role of the godparent is to take an ongoing interest in the growth and development of the child – in particular encouraging them morally and spiritually. For this reason it is important that they have themselves been baptised (and preferably also confirmed).

### **To make a booking**

Please complete the enclosed form and return it to: The Deanery Office, 6 Upgate, Louth LN11 9ET. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call us on 01507 610247.