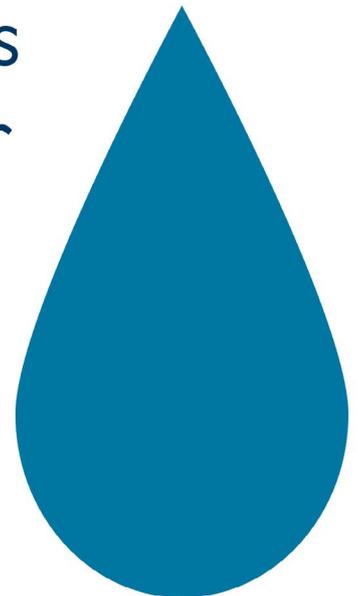




BAPTISM

Resource and gift ideas
for those preparing for
baptism



Dear People of God,

The Vision 2026 group with reference for baptism has been looking at good practices in order to support and signpost our diocese more effectively. I am struck by the variety of approaches that parishes use in their baptism preparation. This is reflected in the resources and gift ideas shown in this booklet. May I encourage you to try something different from the material you have been using, perhaps for a period of time?

Secondly, I recently spoke to a young vicar and his wife, who invite the parents of children coming to baptism for several meals together. It is a heavy commitment but not surprisingly it is an approach that is working, and has led to them starting a new service late Sunday afternoon for families. This is working really well for them, so I would ask that this booklet prompts some consideration on what would enhance what you are already offering.

One very simple place to start (if you don't do this already) would be directing parents to the Church of England Christenings website (www.churchofenglandchristenings.org) which offers information about preparing for baptism, what happens at the service, and continuing their journey of faith afterwards.

If you use resources or have ways of connecting with baptism that are not mentioned in this booklet, please contact either myself or Sarah Earnshaw (sarah.earnshaw@blackburn.anglican.org) to share what you do.

Every Blessing.

Yours in Christ,

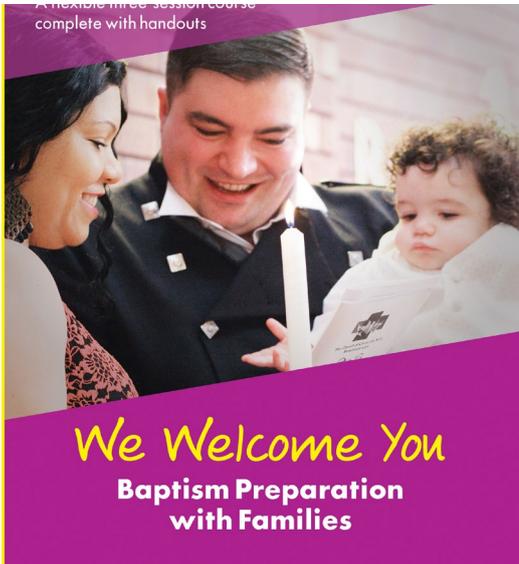


Rt Rev Geoff Pearson
Bishop of Lancaster
bishoplancaster@gmail.com





Baptism Preparation and Resources



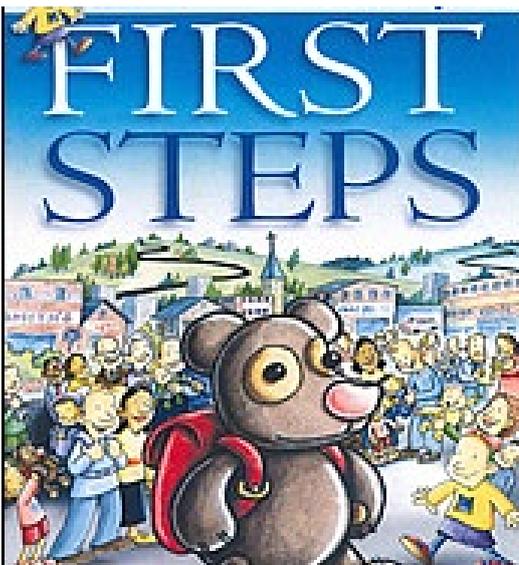
We Welcome You is a ready-made, three-part course to help prepare parents and godparents bringing children for baptism. Informal and participative, with the emphasis on welcome, the sessions cover:

- Getting ready
- The big day itself!
- What Christening means for the rest of life

We Welcome You uses a wide range of learning styles and resources, from film clips, creative storytelling, reflection and discussion, to craft and icebreaker activities.

Guide Price: £19.99

ISBN: 9780715147221



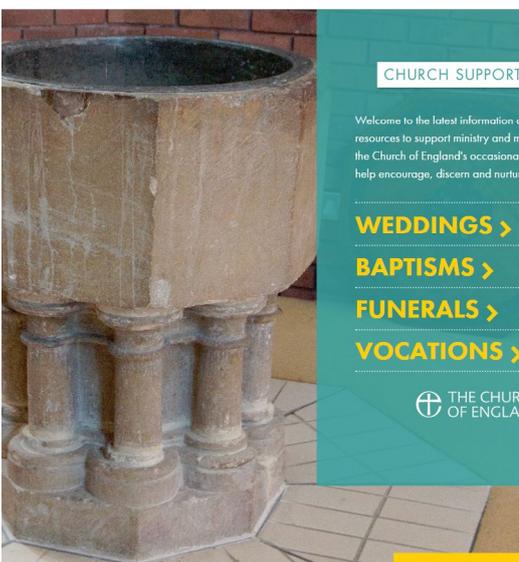
First Steps is CPAS' baptism preparation guide.

For couples and single parents with little or no church background, this lively DVD packs plenty into thirteen minutes.

Using the theme of journeys, **First Steps** outlines the significance of baptism for the child while sketching the basics of Christian faith for parents.

Guide Price: £18 plus p&p.

<http://www.cpas.org.uk/shop/category/16/view/84#.WBll4oWcGUK>



Christening Resources from the Church Support Hub

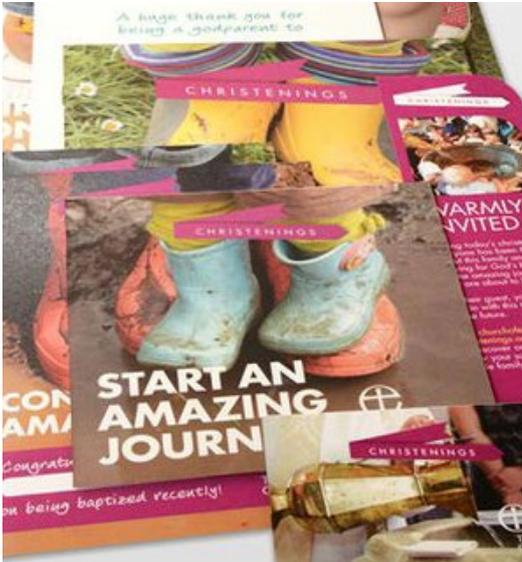
The Church Support Hub provides the latest information and practical resources to support key opportunities for ministry and mission within the Church of England's occasional offices. Ideas, articles, downloads and more, all available to access for free.

Each deanery has someone who can guide you around these resources, ask your Area Dean for contact details.

<https://churchsupporthub.org/baptisms/>



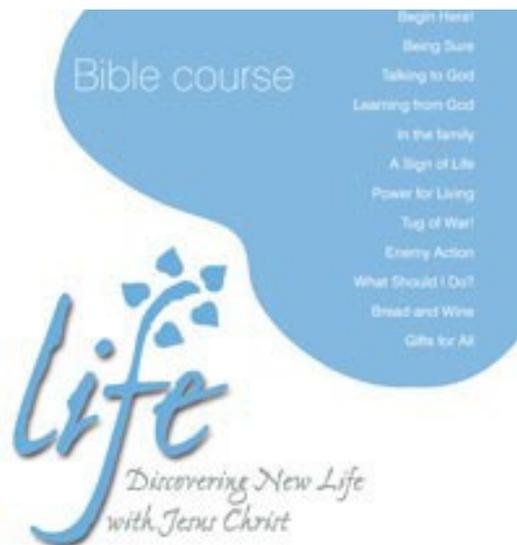
Baptism Preparation and Resources



Christening Resources (to buy) from the Church Print Hub

From the Church Print Hub you can purchase the Church of England's printed resources to support your ministry and mission within the occasional offices and other national initiatives. Many of the resources can be customised with your church's details using the online customisation tool.

<https://www.churchprintheub.org/?cat=1&p=0>



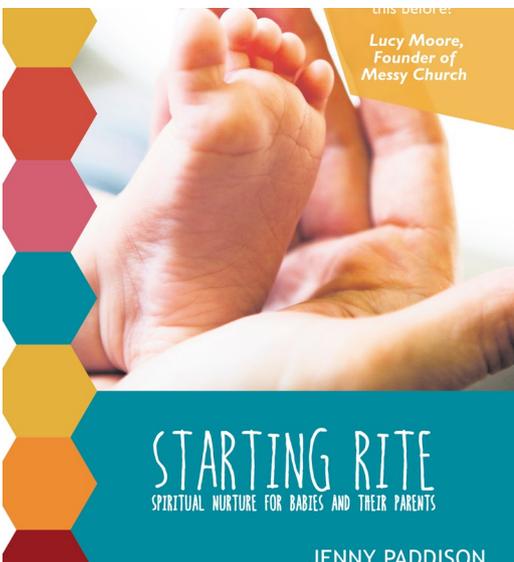
Life Bible Course is very popular; ideal for leading people with no Christian background to a strong foundation in Christ. Simple to use and understand. Consists of 15 A4 work-sheets to fill in. The infant believer's baptism life Bible course includes the following subjects:

- In the beginning - thinking about life
- Jesus who? - the facts about Jesus
- Begin here! - making a new start
- Being sure - being sure of salvation
- Talking to God - understanding prayer
- Learning from God - understanding the Bible

And so much more.

Guide Price: £4.75

ISBN: C4029C



Starting Rite is designed specifically for babies up to a year old and their parents. It provides a complete practical companion to offering the programme locally, including story scripts, simple songs, ideas for multi-sensory play, as well as lists of equipment needed and how to create a welcoming atmosphere. It explores Christian themes through activities like peek-a-boo, blowing bubbles and splashing in water.

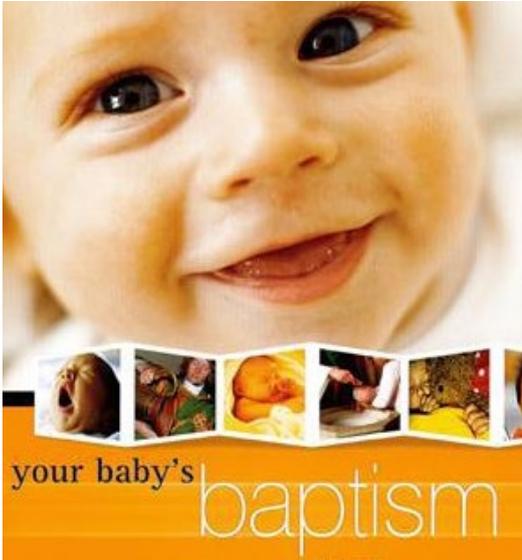
Starting Rite enables local churches to offer a welcome to all new parents, and can also be used as a baptism preparation course.

Guide Price: £19.99

ISBN: 9780715147269

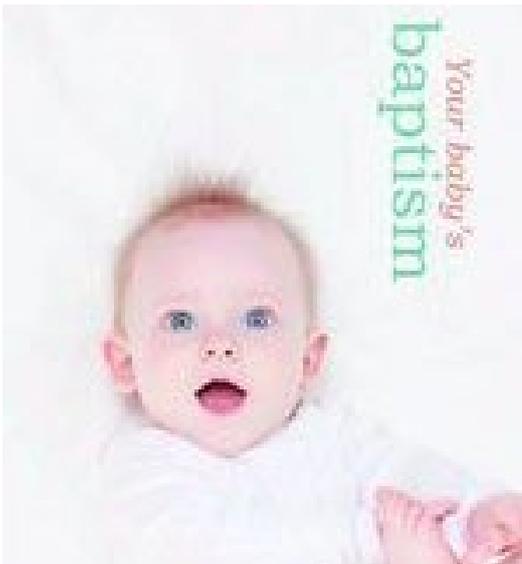


Baptism Preparation and Resources



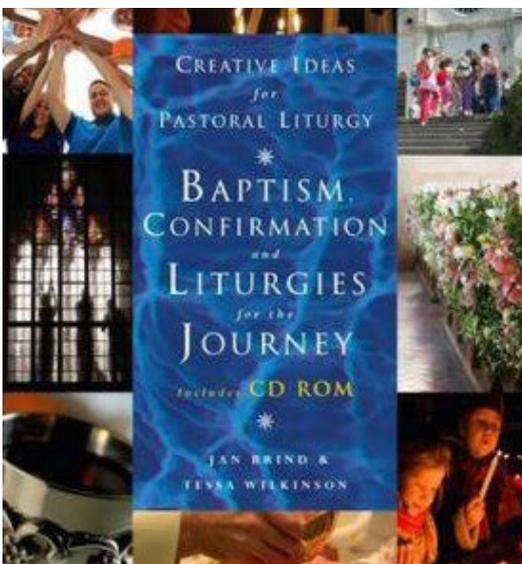
Your Baby's Baptism is an Anglican pastoral publication: here is an invaluable, easy-to-read, and non-threatening opportunity to reach parents at this important time in their Christian lives. Explains the ceremony, and complements the work of the minister involved in the preparation for this happy event.

Guide Price: £4.99
ISBN: 9780852312995



Your Baby's Baptism - Anglican Church, offers a complete guide for families preparing for their baby's baptism. It answers the common questions asked by all wishing to have their child baptised in an Anglican church and gives an overview of the baptism service, helping the family to understand and fully participate in the special day.

Guide Price: £4.25
ISBN: 9780852314128

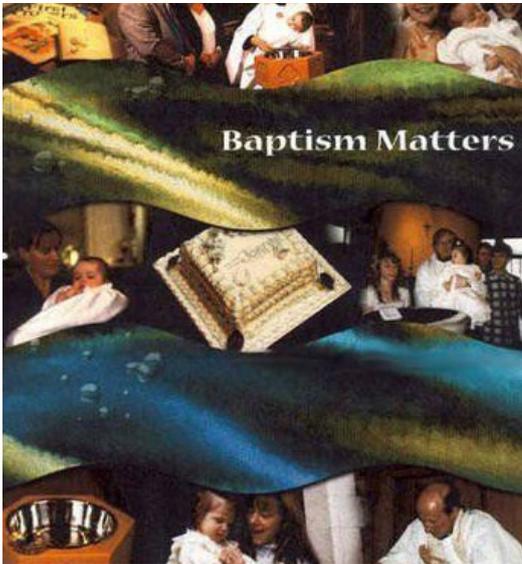


Baptism, Confirmation and Liturgies for the Journey talks through Christian initiation. These take varying forms in different denominations and for many non-churchgoing new parents, a christening or some other kind of ceremony is important at this landmark time in their lives. Equally, many adults seek baptism in the Church of England and the ancient practice of baptism with confirmation at the Easter Vigil is enjoying a revival. This volume offers imaginative ideas and liturgies for all of these and many other occasions in the life of a local church which you will not find in official service books.

Guide Price: £22.99
ISBN: 9781853119507

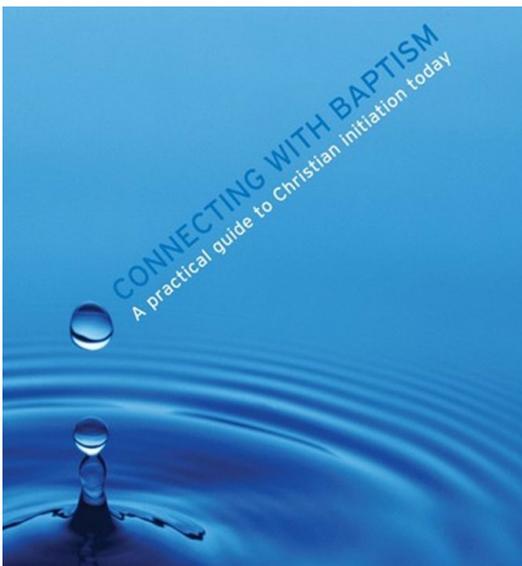


Baptism Preparation and Resources



Baptism Matters is an invaluable resource for all clergy, Readers, churchwardens, PCC members and all who wish to take seriously their baptismal vocation to serve God by enabling others to grow in faith. Using scripture, tradition, reason and experience, the authors examine the theory and practice relating to all baptismal matters and provide a wealth of practical advice and suggestions for those involved in conducting baptisms, preparation and follow-up.

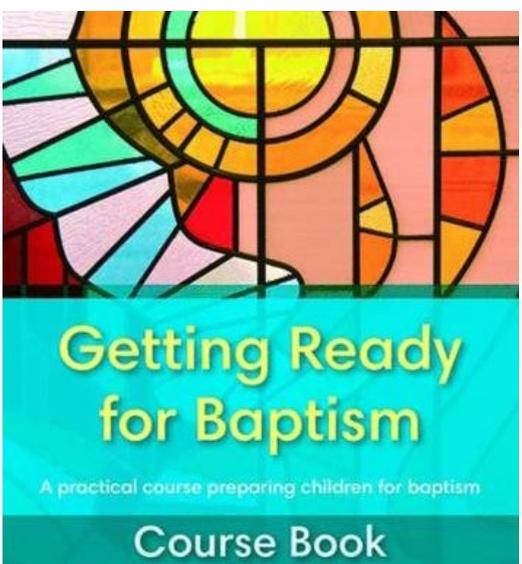
Guide Price: £9.99
ISBN: 9780715143599



Connecting with Baptism is a comprehensive and accessible resource to help clergy and lay leaders unpack Christian initiation pastorally, practically and theologically. In a down-to-earth and stimulating way it provides an enormous amount of practical help, background information and suggestions for clergy and lay leaders involved in taking policy decisions, providing pastoral care and using the initiation services.

The guide includes real-life stories, discussion starters and helpful cross-references to other sections in the text and the Bible.

Guide Price: £14.99
ISBN: 9780715141106

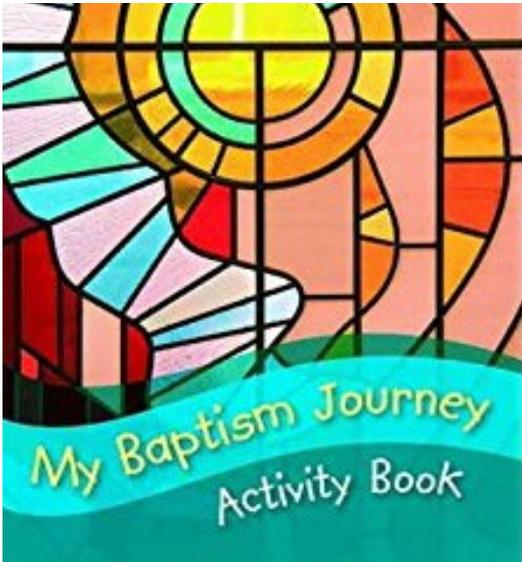


Getting Ready for Baptism recognises that baptism can take place at any age and stage of life. Its aim is to deepen understanding of the biblical background to baptism for all involved and to explore what it means to be a child of God. With the emphasis on facilitating rather than a teacher-led approach, the material seeks to encourage all those involved in the sacrament, whether they are the candidate, the parent, godparent, friend, extended family member or member of the church community.

Guide Price: £8.99
ISBN: 9780857460196



Baptism Preparation and Resources

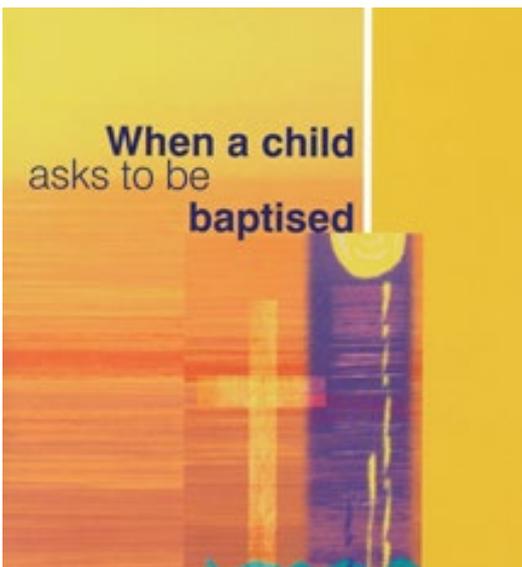


My Baptism Journey activity book is intended for use at home to help children think about their baptism journey.

Children can add their own thoughts in the spaces provided, and can write or draw as much or as little as they like. There are also fun tasks to complete, and space to stick in photographs of the baptism itself.

At the back of the book is a colour wheel to help children to describe their thoughts and feelings.

Guide Price: £3.99
ISBN: 9780857460202



When a child asks to be baptised all sorts of questions are raised: - Are they ready to be baptized? - How can we help them understand? - What part do parents play? - How can the cell group play a part? - And many others. In this book, Daphne Kirk seeks to answer these and other questions and to provide a clear and thorough explanation of the meaning and implications of baptism.

Guide Price: £12.00
ISBN: 9781840033236



Last Supper Baptism Preparation Course for Parents & Godparents 8 sessions explaining Baptism to Parents and Godparents

Themes include:

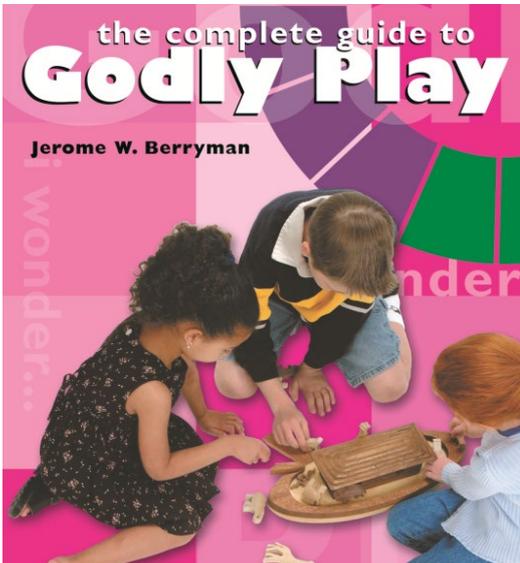
1. The Baptism of Jesus
2. What is Baptism?
3. The sign of the cross
4. The sign of water and more.

Guide Price: £16.99 including Last Supper Poster & Card Set

Contact: children@blackburn.anglican.org to order



Baptism Preparation and Resources

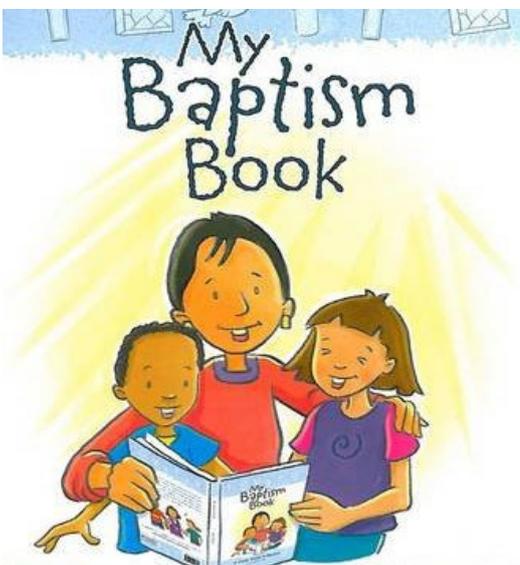


Godly Play – Lesson 6: Holy Baptism. Children have an innate sense of the presence of God. The Godly Play approach helps them to explore their faith through story, to gain religious language and to enhance their spiritual experience through wonder and play. Based on Montessori principles and developed using a spiral curriculum, the Godly Play method serves children through early, middle and late childhood and beyond. Come join us! This book contains the lesson on Holy Baptism.

Guide Price: £21.00 (book only)
ISBN: 9781889108971



Child's Guide



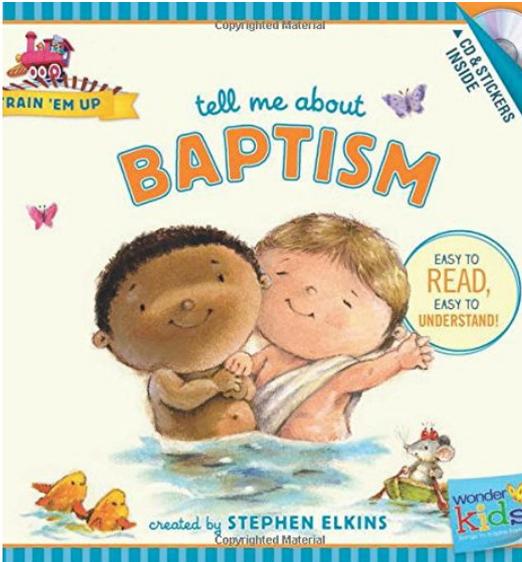
My Baptism Book aims to help children understand one of the most important days of a child's life. It is a beautiful personal reminder of this special day and one that a child can return to again and again.

The book, written to complement the Anglican baptism service, helps children understand one of the most important days in a young life. This book can be used by adults and children together, or in more formal Anglican baptism preparation and includes a number of ideas on ways to use the material. It is suitable as a gift for children aged 3+.

Guide Price: £4.99
ISBN: 9780715142264



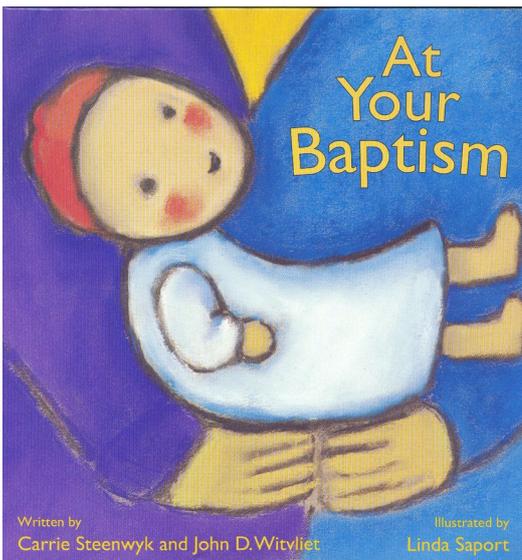
Child's Guide



Tell Me about Baptism, a friendly train conductor, Mr. Steve, teaches the fundamentals of baptism, what it is, and why followers of Jesus should be baptised. Through bold graphics and interactive songs and stories, Train 'Em Up makes it easy for parents and teachers to explain biblical concepts like baptism in a way that helps with attention, memorisation, and recall while building a solid faith foundation.

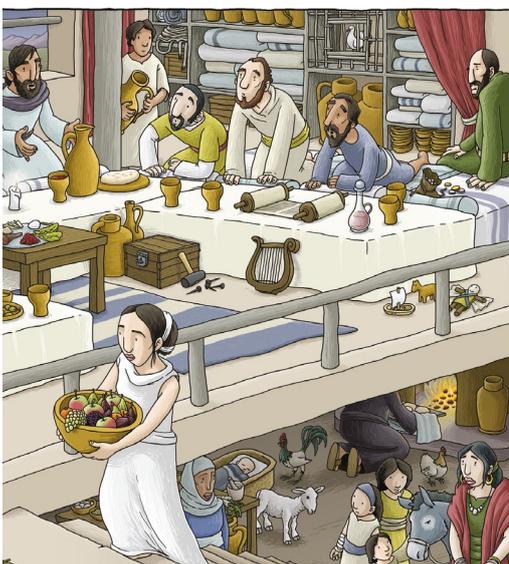
Includes a CD with sing-along songs and narrated stories with sound effects, plus a colourful sticker sheet!

Guide Price: £4.99
ISBN: 9781414396828



At Your Baptism. Through the sacrament of baptism, God shows his love, the same love that claims us for his family, that sent Christ into the world to die for us; the same love that we show to one another. Using simple, clear text adapted from the French Reformed Church liturgy and paired with vibrant illustrations and straightforward explanations on every page, *At Your Baptism* provides the perfect way to show young children how baptism is a sign of God's love and promises.

Guide Price: £6.99
ISBN: 9780802853813



Last Supper Guide to Baptism for Young Children. 6 sessions for young children to learn about Baptism

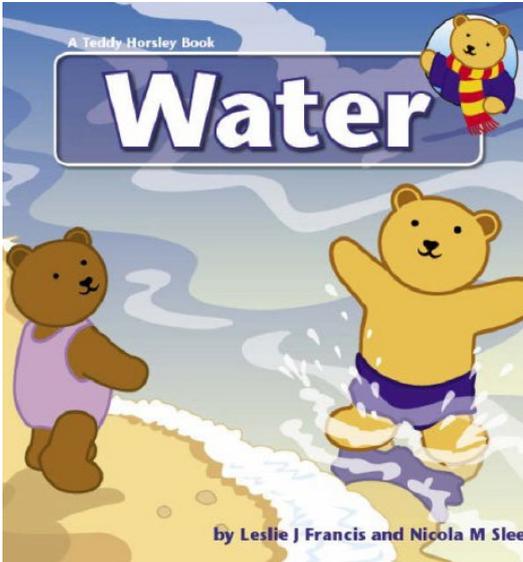
Themes include:

1. The Story of Jesus' Baptism
2. What is Baptism?
3. An Invisible Badge
4. The Gift of Water
5. Anointing
6. Candles

Guide Price: £16.99 including Last Supper Poster & Card Set
Contact: children@blackburn.anglican.org to order



Child's Guide



Water: A Teddy Horsley Book. The Teddy Horsley Bible Series is designed to build bridges between the young child's day-to-day experiences of the world and major biblical themes and stories.

Guide Price: £1.00
ISBN: 9781905893003



Gifts

The Lion
BAPTISM
BIBLE

The Lion Baptism Bible. Serene, classic illustrations throughout make this Bible extra special. This beautiful gift for a baptism is a fantastic introduction to reading the Bible, as it is written to be accessible to newly confident readers and will hold their attention throughout the book.

Guide Price: £9.99
ISBN: 9780745976617





Timothy Bear and the Baptism Box

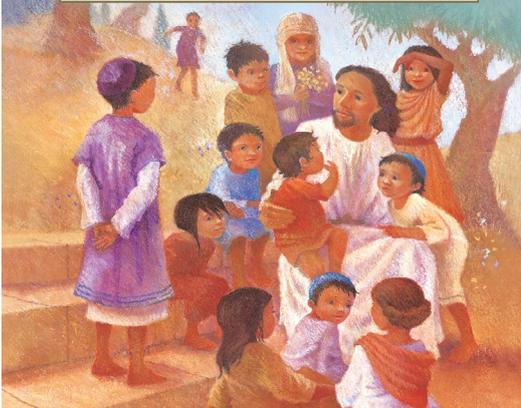
12 five-minute stories and simple activities
for baptism families



Timothy Bear and the Baptism Box. When his baby sister Teresa is baptised, Timothy Bear learns a lot about what baptism really means - and he discovers that some lessons are easier to learn than others! Timothy Bear and the Baptism Box contains 12 easy-to-read stories, each exploring a different symbol or action found either in the Church of England baptism service or in the wider baptism journey. The stories lead to the creation of a child's own Baptism Box. An ideal gift for 4-7s, to help them engage with the true meaning of baptism.

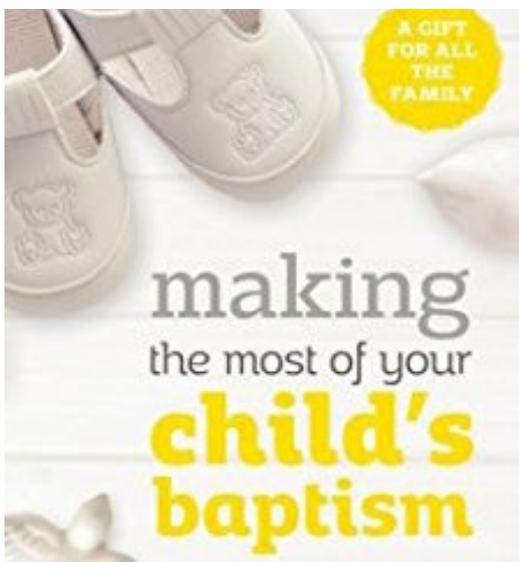
Guide Price: £6.99
ISBN: 9780857461544

Prayers and Verses for a Child's Baptism



Prayers and verses for a child's Baptism. A striking and sincere book of over 40 prayers, psalms and Bible verses to be given as a baptism gift. Includes a page for people to sign, write their own blessing and dedication. Suitable from birth.

Guide Price: £7.99
ISBN: 9780745976150



Making the most of your child's baptism. A revised and updated version of this popular gift book for those bringing children for baptism.

A revised and updated edition of a full-colour gift book that unpacks the Church of England's baptism service and explains its meaning and symbolism for parents.

Guide Price: £4.99
ISBN: 9780281075485



Gifts



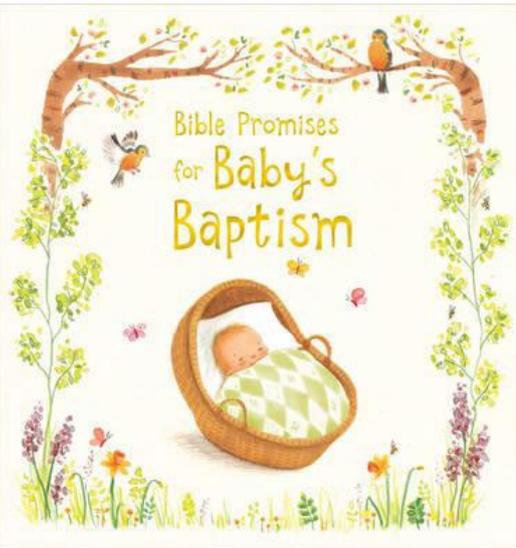
A GIFT
For a Little Child's
BAPTISM



Gift for a Little Child's Baptism. Simple prayers and appealing illustrations make this a delight to give on the occasion or anniversary of a baptism or christening. A selection of modern and traditional blessings touch on the values that a grown-up wishes for a newly baptized child: love; joy; peace; patience; kindness; goodness; faithfulness; gentleness; self-control. The book includes a dedication page to record the date of the baptism, the name of the child, and the godparents.

Guide Price: £7.99

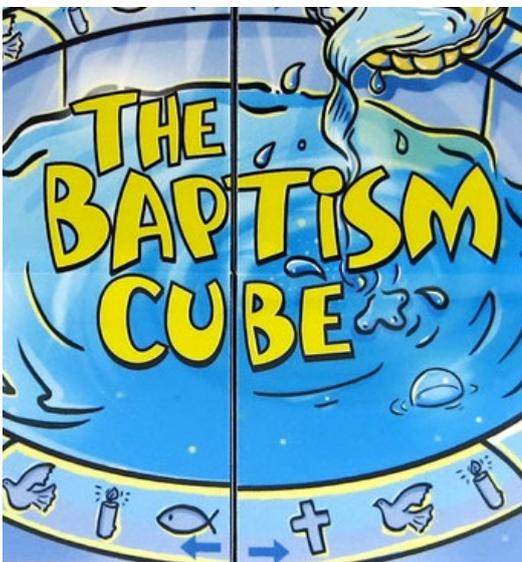
ISBN: 9780745962511



Bible Promises for Baby's Baptism. Gather together to welcome your new baby into the family and into the church! This adorable little book is full of words from the Bible and prayers, that a child can grow to treasure and makes a wonderful keepsake book for the occasion. Share these words of God's love with the child who is dear to you.

Guide Price: £6.99

ISBN: 9780745965543



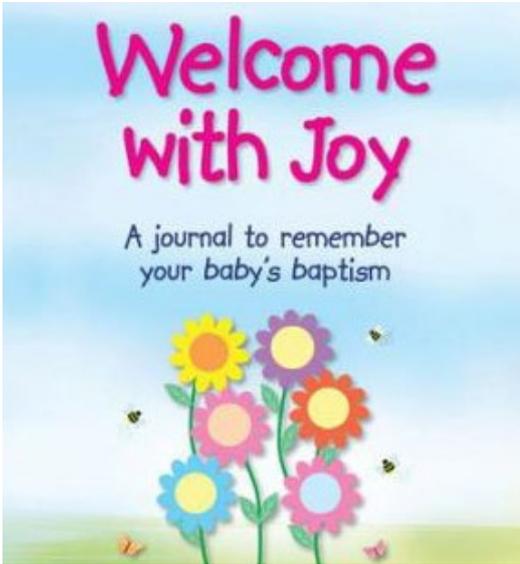
The Baptism Cube. Aimed at children aged 3+, this sturdy, robust cube is a perfect gift for a child about to be baptised or for an older sibling of a baby being baptised. In a fun, interactive way, it helps children to learn about the main features and symbols of the baptism service. This is a perfect reminder of a special day in a child's life. The illustrations are matched by those in "My Baptism Book".

Guide Price: £6.99

ISBN: 9780715143209

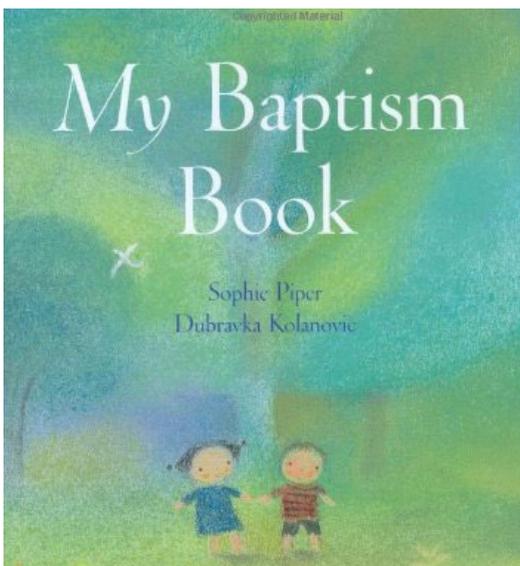


Gifts



Welcome with joy is a beautiful journal designed to enrich the celebration of Baptism, giving you a keepsake of the special occasion. Page by page the book will take you deeper into understanding the wonder of Baptism.

Guide Price: £7.99
ISBN: 9781848672215



My Baptism Book has the colour illustration, textual simplicity and styling to appeal to very young children - from the time they are 2 to about 5. It includes simple prayers, of the sort that are useful to commit to memory and to say at bedtime, along with very simply expressed statements of Christian belief that are appropriate to the age range and add up to a starter credo (e.g. 'God loves me' illustrated by the parable of the lost sheep, not 'I believe in the communion of saints').

Guide Price: £7.99
ISBN: 9780745949642



If you are looking for gifts that aren't books then you can find lots of websites out there which sell some amazing and beautiful baptism gifts, from wall art to jewellery and Noah's arcs to personalised cuddly teddies. Alternatively you could ask your Mother's Union to knit a blanket, or ask a talented parishioner to make something as a wonderful way to involve the wider church family.

Take a look at three of our favourite sites below:



Cheerfully Given is a Christian site where independent sellers can sell their creations, often handmade. Lots of beautiful gifts, mainly art but there are lots of other things too.

<https://www.cheerfullygiven.com/>

Etsy

Etsy is an American based site where people can sell their creations. It has a wonderful selection of handmade baptism gifts, however we would recommend you refine your search to place the shop location as 'United Kingdom' as this will reduce the postage costs.

<https://www.etsy.com>



Not on the High Street is a brilliant website full of items you can't find on the high street. They have a wide range of gifts suitable for baptisms, from the handmade to personalised.

<http://www.notonthestreet.com/>



Pamphlets

What Dads Add MU Leaflet. A leaflet designed to encourage fathers and their participation in the faith life of their child - particularly as they prepare for their child's Baptism.

Guide Price: £1 per pack of 10

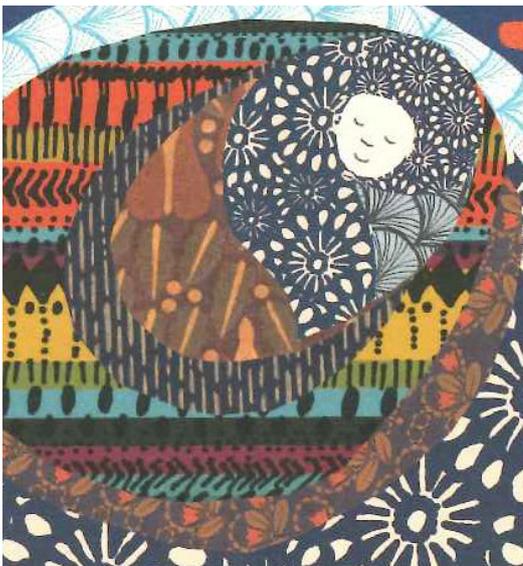
<http://www.mothersunion.org/members/im-member/resources-order>

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Hand in Hand MU Leaflet. This is a resource meant for parents who are already strong in their faith and desire to nurture this in their children, as well as for those who feel less certain.

Guide Price: £2 per copy (discount for bulk orders)

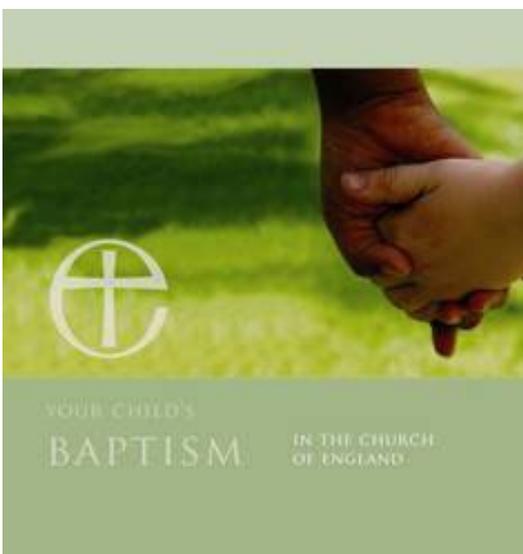
<http://www.mothersunion.org/members/im-member/>



Sharing in new life (pew cards). A pew card for use at christenings, Sharing new Life celebrates God's interest in our lives and offers church visitors a blessing to pray for the child. A matching short animation is also available for showing at christenings.

Guide Price: £2 per pack of 10

<http://www.sgmlifewords.com/uk/resources/details/sharing-new-life>



Your child's Baptism in the Church of England. This full-colour leaflet provides clear guidance to parents on what happens at a baptism, what decisions they will be asked to make, what role the godparents play and what will happen during the service. It outlines the importance of baptism and the promises that are made by parents and godparents.

It provides a brief background and history of baptism and describes the symbols used in baptism and their meaning. Available in a pack of 20.

Guide Price: £14.99 per pack of 20

ISBN: 9780715142141



Suppliers

- Christian Book Centre, 4-6 Fox St, Preston PR1 2AB (01772 259279)
- Christian Book Centre, 5 Mary St, Lancaster LA1 1UW (01524 841655)
- 10 of Those <https://www.10ofthose.com/> (0330 223 3423)
- Two Worlds Christian Bookshop, 2 Avondale Rd, Chorley PR7 2ED (01257 263880)
- Blackburn Cathedral Gift Shop, Cathedral Close, Blackburn BB1 5AA (01254 277430)
- CLC Bookshop, Abingdon Street, Blackpool, Lancashire FY1 1DH (01253 624160) blackpool@clcbookshops.com

www.pastoralservicesdiary.org

Have you considered using this online tool? It is built to support churches with the administration of occasional offices, and to facilitate pastoral relationship and follow up. Reminders and Services can be synchronized with your own electronic calendar, and Service printing options help speed up your day to day tasks.