

## Using the Christening resources

Please use these resources from **1 July 2014**.

### Resources for enquirers and before the day



#### Just asking

This leaflet is designed to be available in toddler groups, libraries, anywhere where parents might pick it up out of interest. It contains a basic welcome to enquire about christening. You need to add in your local contact details.



#### First meeting

This is the leaflet to give to parents after a first meeting. It has a quick guide to the service and other helpful information, such as information about choosing Godparents. Make sure you add your contact details and encourage families to keep it safe.



#### Godparents

This card is for the parents to give to the godparents. You might like to give it to them during any meeting to help prepare for the christening. It has key information to remind godparents what they have promised to do. Encourage parents to add a photo of the child to the front. [You will need to attach the magnet to the card.]



# CHRISTENINGS

## Getting Ready

Later this year we will have two courses which we will need your help in trialling:

**Starting right:** a 5 week interactive and creative course which explores spirituality, gives practical ideas about praying and story telling as well as space to think about key themes about faith, and baptism in particular.

**ABC:** a guide for clergy and others to use when meeting families either individually or in a group. Can be used in one session or over three with ideas for conversation starters and activities.

## On or after the day



### The guest bookmark

This is to give out to guests of the family as they leave the church. It encourages them to pray and directs them to the 'Light a Candle' feature on the christenings website.



### The Invitation Card

Use this to invite families back to church after the christenings for any occasion, but especially if you have a stand-alone christening service and they need to come to a Sunday service to get a certificate, welcome and candle.

## All the time



### The prayer card

Encourage your regular worshippers to take a card home with them and pray by name for children who are being or have been christened. Praying by name helps to build up a sense of relationship and begins to connect the church and the family.



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## Starting the pilot with your church

You might like to take the opportunity to speak to regular worshippers about the parish involvement in the project, and then pray for the year ahead.

God of new beginnings,  
Through our baptism you brought us to life in Christ,  
and called us to shine as a light in the world..  
Give us ears to listen, eyes to see,  
and wisdom to discern your purposes  
as this church helps discover new ways  
of sharing the good news of your love.  
Show us how to walk alongside christening families,  
to welcome them with joy  
and encourage them as they start an amazing journey of faith.  
In Jesus name we pray.

**Amen.**



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