

# The Parish of St. Paul, Wokingham

## Holy Baptism within the Parish Mass

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We wish you a very warm welcome to St Paul's this morning,  
on this very special occasion.

The Children's Chapel was straight ahead of you as you came into Church this morning, and is a safe area for the children to play and join in with the service. There is also usually a Sunday School during the service to which you are welcome to send or take your children.

If you have any questions at all, about anything that's happening, please don't be afraid to ask. If you usually receive communion in your own church then you're very welcome to receive communion this morning. If you'd prefer to receive a blessing just come forward with everyone else and keep your head bowed at the rail. Gluten free wafers are available- please ask a Warden or server.

And if you're putting money in the collection plate today, thank you: if you use a white Gift Aid envelope then we can claim the tax back, and your £10 becomes worth £12.50 to us.

In the Mass we

- ❖ gather together as one family
- ❖ proclaim and respond to the word of God
- ❖ remember before God the Church and the world
- ❖ share in the peace of Christ
- ❖ pray the Eucharistic Prayer
- ❖ receive communion
- ❖ depart with the blessing of God, to live lives to his glory.

# The Gathering

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ, be with you all: **and also with you.**

*The President introduces the service, using these and other words:*

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us that to enter  
the kingdom of heaven we must be born again  
of water and the Spirit, and has given us baptism  
as the sign and seal of this new birth.

Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean.

Here we are clothed with Christ, dying to sin  
that we might live his risen life.

As children of God, we have a new dignity  
and God calls us to fullness of life.

## Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.**

**Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King, Almighty God and Father,**

**we worship you, we give you thanks,**

**we praise you for your glory.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father.**

**Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;**

**have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:**

**receive our prayer.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.  
Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.**

**The Collect** (the special prayer for today)  
Heavenly Father, by the power of your Holy Spirit  
you give your faithful people  
new life in the water of baptism.  
Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit,  
that we who are born again  
may serve you in faith and love,  
and grow into the full stature of your Son,  
Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

### **A Reading from the Bible**

*At the end, the reader says:*

This is the word of the Lord: **thanks be to God.**

### **The Gospel** (a reading from the life of Jesus)

*By tradition we turn to face the Gospel book, which symbolises  
Christ dwelling amongst his people through his word.*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Alleluia, alleluia. This is my Son, the beloved,  
with whom I am well pleased. **Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to N. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end the priest says:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**The Sermon** (*We consider what God is saying*)

## The Liturgy of Baptism

Faith is the gift of God to his people.

In baptism the Lord is adding to our number  
those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome this child  
and uphold (him/her) in their new life in Christ?

**All: With the help of God, we will.**

Parents and godparents,

the Church receives this child with joy.

Today we are trusting God for (his/her) growth in faith.

Will you pray for (him/her),

draw (him/her) by your example into the community of faith  
and walk with (him/her) in the way of Christ?

**Parents and Godparents: With the help of God, we will.**

In baptism this child begins (his/her) journey in faith.

You speak for (him/her) today.

Will you care for (him/her),

and help (him/her) to take (his/ her) place  
within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

**P & G: With the help of God, we will.**

# The Decision

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

**Parents and Godparents: I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

**Parents and Godparents: I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

**Parents and Godparents: I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

**Parents and Godparents: I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

**Parents and Godparents: I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

**Parents and Godparents: I come to Christ.**

## 1. The Sign of the Cross

*The Priest makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate with Oil for Baptism, saying:*

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**All: Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ**

**against sin, the world and the devil,**

**and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

*The Baptism party move to the Font. The congregation turn to face the Font. You are invited to move so you can see what is going on.*

## 2. The Water of Baptism

### The Prayer over the Water

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

**All: who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give him thanks and praise...**

...Now sanctify this water + that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, they may be cleansed from sin and born again.

Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### The Profession of Faith

Let us affirm, together with these who are being baptized, our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

**All: I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

**All: I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

**All: I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**All: This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

## The Baptism

N, I baptise you in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **All: Amen.**

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church,  
pour upon you the riches of his grace,  
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people  
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,  
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. **Amen.**

## The Prayers of Intercession

*During the prayers this response may be used:*

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

## The Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:  
by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

**All: We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;  
we are children of the same heavenly Father;  
we welcome you.**

## The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you: **and also with you.**

*The Baptism party return to their seats after sharing the Peace.*

# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Pray my brothers and sisters,  
that our sacrifice may be acceptable  
to God the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands,  
for the praise and glory of his Name,  
for our good and the good of all his church.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Almighty God, good Father to us all,  
your face is turned towards your world.

In love you gave us Jesus your Son  
to rescue us from sin and death.

Your Word goes out to call us home  
to the city where angels sing your praise.

We join with them in heaven's song:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Father of all, we give you thanks  
for every gift that comes from heaven.  
To the darkness Jesus came as your light.  
With signs of faith and words of hope  
he touched untouchables with love  
and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story.

**This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.**

The crowds came out to see your Son,  
yet at the end they turned on him.  
On the night he was betrayed  
he came to table with his friends  
to celebrate the freedom of your people.

This is his story.

**This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.**

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;  
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:  
This is my body, given for you all.  
Do this in remembrance of me.

Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;  
he took the cup, gave it and said:  
This is my blood, shed for you all  
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this in remembrance of me.

This is our story.

**This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.**

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup  
we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free.  
Defying death he rose again  
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.  
This is our story.

**This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.**

Send your Spirit on us now  
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ  
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.  
May we and all who share this food  
offer ourselves to live for you  
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven  
where all creation worships you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:  
**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done: on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
Lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

## **Agnus Dei**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*The president and people receive communion. You are warmly  
invited to come forward to receive communion if you would like to.*

*If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead, please come  
forward with everyone else and keep your head bowed at the rail.*

## **The Post-Communion Prayer**

*(We thank God for his love, revealed in this feast)*

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.**

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

## **The Notices**

# The Dismissal

## The Blessing

The Lord be with you: **and also with you.**

God be close to you awake and asleep, alone and with others,  
in joy and in sorrow, in life and in death:

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## 3. The lighted candle

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness  
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;

walk in this light all the days of your life.

**All: Shine as a light in the world**

**to the glory of God the Father.**

Go in the light and peace of Christ. **All: Thanks be to God.**

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*We sit and enjoy the organ voluntary, before going for coffee  
in the Parish Rooms, where everyone is welcome.*

*There are lots of groups for people of all ages happening during the week and  
on a Sunday in all three Churches in the parish. In particular, if you'd like  
to find out more about groups for pre-school children,  
and primary school children, and secondary school children  
then please speak to a member of the clergy  
or one of our two Children's Advocates, Sally and Jason.*

[www.spauls.org.uk](http://www.spauls.org.uk)

Parish Office 0118 979 2122

{Version 2}