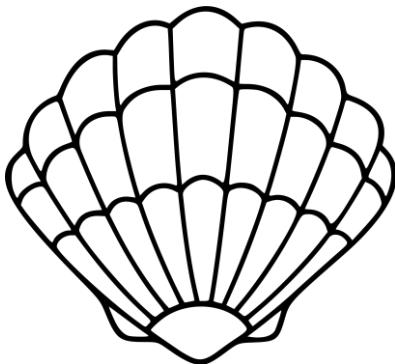
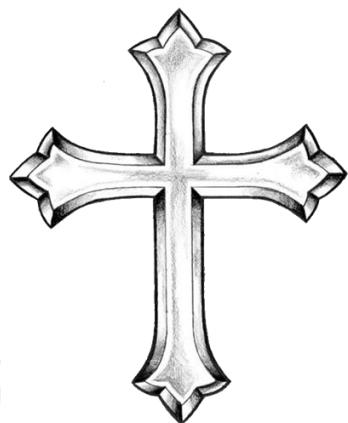


St Peter's Church, Darwen



*The
Baptism
Service*

Welcome!

You are warmly welcomed to St Peter's Church.

Please do not worry if your child makes a noise during the service.

Toilets and nappy changing facilities are available at the back of church.

Please switch your phone off or to silent during the service.

For those using hearing aids, an induction loop is fitted in church.

Baptism

Baptism is a celebration of a child or adult being baptised; a thanksgiving for their life and for all that God gives them and us; a welcome into the family of the church, both worldwide and locally.

God promises to hold those being baptised in his love and care; to give them forgiveness and healing when they seek it.

We promise to help the person being baptised to grow within the Christian faith; to pray for them and to walk beside them on their Christian journey.

The Welcome and Introduction

The words of welcome and introduction are said

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all
and also with you.

We rejoice today with _____ as they thank God for the gift of life
and bring _____ for baptism.

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.
In Baptism God claims us as his own,
washes us from sin and sets us free from the power of death.
Here we know that we are made one with Christ in his death and
resurrection, members of his body, called to share his ministry in
the world.

Scripture Reading

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was
baptized by John in the River Jordan. And just as he was coming
up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit
descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven,
'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

(Mark 1: 9-11)

The Presentation of those to be Baptised

The parents and those to be baptised are invited to the front to face the congregation.

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 _____

and uphold _____ in _____ new life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

Godparents are invited to the front

Parents and godparents, the Church receives _____ with joy.

Today we are trusting God for _____ growth in faith.

Will you pray for _____,

draw _____ by your example into the community of faith
and walk with _____ in the way of Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

In baptism _____ begins _____ journey in faith.

It is your privilege and responsibility to speak
for _____ today.

Will you care for _____,

and help _____ to take _____ place
within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

With the help of God, we will.

The Decision

The Easter candle is lit: a symbol of Jesus who is the light of the world

Following Jesus means turning away from sin,
turning towards God's light,
and receiving new life in him.

Therefore parents and godparents I ask you:

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

I renounce evil.

The Signing with the Cross

The sign of the cross is made on the forehead of each of those to be baptised.

_____, Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross. Do not be afraid to profess the Christian faith; live and grow in the light and love of Jesus; loving others as Jesus loves you.

Amen.

The Parents godparents are invited to make the sign of the cross on those to be baptised.

The congregation are invited to make their way to the font; the place of baptism.

The Prayer over the Water

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
Who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Father, for your gift of water in creation,
We give you thanks and praise.

For your spirit sweeping over the water,
bringing light and life,
we give you thanks and praise.

For your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
baptised in the River Jordan,
we give you thanks and praise.

For your new creation,
brought to birth by water and the Spirit,
we give you thanks and praise.

For your grace bestowed on us your children,
washing away our sins,
we give you thanks and praise

Father, accept our sacrifice of praise;
may your holy and life-giving Spirit
move upon this water.
Lord, receive our prayer.

Restore through it the beauty of your creation,
and bring those who are baptised to new birth in the family of
your Church.

Lord, receive our prayer.

For you are great and hold all things in your hand
Now and for ever.

Amen.

The Statement of Christian Faith

Let us affirm our Christian Faith.

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

I believe and trust in God.

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

I believe and trust in God.

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?

I believe and trust in God.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

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

The Baptism



The candidate is brought to the font.

The Minister asks

What name have you given this child?

_____, I baptise you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

A baptism shawl may be placed around the child.

The sign of the cross is made on the forehead of the baptised using oil saying:

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; and give you peace.

Amen

The Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
_____, by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.
**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father;
we welcome you.**

The congregation greets the newly baptised with a round of applause.

The Prayers

We pray for the newly baptised, the parents and godparents, and the whole congregation.

God of grace and love, we thank you for the gift of children and the joy they bring. We pray that you will guide and protect _____ throughout _____ life. May your love hold _____, your truth guide _____, and your joy delight _____. May _____ grow up to know your love and to trust you in all things.

Amen

God our Creator, direct with your loving kindness _____ parents and godparents; when they are tired strengthen them, when they are worried sustain them, when they are bewildered encourage them and in all their fears and concerns, give them confidence, hope and peace. Help them to be faithful to their baptism promises as they guide and encourage _____ on _____ Christian journey.

Amen.

God of Love, you are with us in all the joys and sorrows of family life. We ask you to bless all the families here today, and help them listen, learn and grow together. May their homes be places of love, security and truthfulness. Give to all families wisdom and courage, laughter and peace, and the love that can endure all things.

Amen.

Let us pray together in the words Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name;

thy kingdom come;

your will be done;

on earth as is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation;

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom,

the power and the glory, are yours

now and for ever.

Amen.

Everyone returns to their places at the front and the newly baptised are presented with a lighted candle, symbol of Christ Light of the World.

The Giving of a Lighted Candle

_____, through this baptism you have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

Shine as a light in the world

To the glory of God the Father.

A Dove is hung on our Baptism Tree.

The Blessing

The Peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep you hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you and those you love always.
Amen.

If you are able to give a donation to help the work of the church it will be very gratefully received.

There is a plate at the back of Church.

EVERYONE IS INVITED
to worship with us at St Peter's.

Our **Parish Eucharist** is at 10.30am every Sunday morning in Church.

Sunday School meet on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month during the Eucharist, to explore the life of Jesus through stories, conversation and crafts

Every Wednesday morning at 10.00am, we celebrate **Wednesday Communion** at the followed by Tea and Coffee.

Our **Toddler group** takes place every Tuesday morning in Church, during school term time, from 10am to 11am.

**PLEASE DO COME AND JOIN US.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO WECOMING YOU.**

Follow us on Facebook or on our Website
www.stpeterschurchdarwen.org

Some material included in this service;
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