

YOU ARE WARMLY WELCOMED
TO THE CHRISTENING OF

HENRY LEO
JAMES ENTWISLE



SATURDAY 3RD JUNE, 2023
ST MARY'S CHURCH, SULHAMSTEAD ABBOTS

SERVICE LED BY
REVD. TERRY WARD-HALL

Introduction

We are delighted that you are here to celebrate baptism as parent, godparent, family member or friend.

Baptism or Christening? There is no difference between a christening service and a baptism service. Some churches will use the word baptism and some the word christening. Babies are baptised during a christening service just as couples are married during a wedding service.

Christening is a traditional English word which means to become a member of the Christian church. Baptism means to be immersed in water. During a christening service a baby or child will be baptised with water and welcomed into the community of the local church.

Whatever you call it, this service marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues throughout our lives. Here we may also remember our own baptism and commit ourselves anew to walking in Christ's way with those who are now to be baptised.

This service includes vivid and powerful symbols of our faith. **Water**, which cleanses and refreshes us; **the cross**, anointed on our forehead in oil to mark our following in Christ's path of self-sacrificial love and a **lighted candle**, to show our lives as illuminated by Christ, the Light of the World.

Jesus said '*Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. And remember, I am with you always*'.

Pray regularly for those being baptised today as we shall too.

Rev. Terry Ward-Hall

God of grace and life, in your love you have given us a place with your people; keep us faithful to our baptism and prepare us for that glorious day when the whole creation will be made perfect in your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

We conclude with the Lord's Prayer

*Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as 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.*

The Blessing

The God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Giving of a 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.

Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father

The Dismissal

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God

Thank you for joining us today.