Baptism

To arrange a baptism please contact:
Rev'd Sarah Feaster
Tel. 01423 330928 or email: revfeaster@gmail.com

We will arrange to visit you at home and discuss the service with you.

Baptism is a time for celebration and joy.
We hope to help you plan and prepare for baptism in the best possible way.

In baptism your child is:

Signed with the cross

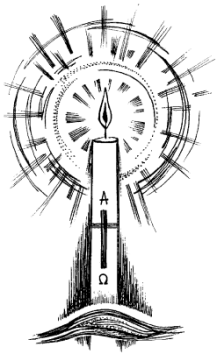
To show that we belong to Christ who died on the cross; as an act of dedication in the service of Christ and as a sign of God's love for us, a love which is stronger than death.

"I sign you with the cross, the sign of Christ"

Baptised with water

As a sign that we are made clean through God's love and forgiveness; as a sign of God's life-giving power and as a symbol of our new life, won for us when Jesus rose from the dead.

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



Given a lighted candle

As a sign that God has shown himself to us in Jesus, to be the light of the world; as a symbol of the promise that God will guide us with his light if we trust in him and as a sign that we may all grow to reflect the light of Christ in our lives.

"Receive this light…. Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father."

Welcomed into the Church family

We worship God
We teach the Christian faith
We try to care for others
We serve the world
in the name of Christ.

"We welcome you into the Lord's Family."

Choosing Godparents

When choosing Godparents it is important to consider the following:

- Godparents must be baptised into the Christian faith.
- Godparents should be of a responsible age, generally 16 is the youngest we would consider suitable.

- The normal number of Godparents per child is three. For a girl, two women usually and a man, for a boy, two men usually and a woman.
- Godparents need to be aware that they will be making solemn promises before God, and be prepared to make and keep them.

Parents and Godparents promise to help in three special ways:

Prayer

Even if you don't find prayer very easy, it is still important to teach your child to pray. Prayer can help your home to become a place of love, security and trust.

Prayer helps your children to grow up to know and love God through his Son Jesus. Prayer is always there when you need it!

Prayers needn't be long or heavy. A good pattern is to encourage children to say a short prayer of their own about anything they choose, then you can say one, and perhaps finish with the Lord's Prayer.

Example

The best example you can give is to come to church as a family, where your children can come and meet God in other people and know what it is to belong to a wider family.

Worship comes in many forms to suit your different needs. We offer Sunday School, Parish Praise and Café Church as well as our usual services (see below for details).

The best example of God's love we have is in the life of Jesus. If we try to live by his standards we will be giving our children the best example we can. Jesus taught us to love God and to love our neighbour as ourselves.

Teaching

There are plenty of books for children but Desmond Tutu's Children of God Storybook Bible and Bob Hartman's The Lion Storyteller Bible are both very helpful resources for young children.

We welcome children to all our services and especially to our Parish Praise Services, details of the times for these can be found in the Parish News, magazine, the website (theunitedbenefice.co.uk) or on our church noticeboards.

Sunday School meets at 4pm on the 4th Sunday of the month in Green Hammerton School during term time.

Café Church meets at 4pm on the 1st Sunday of the month in Little Ouseburn Village Hall. This is a very informal service (about 45mins) with a simple craft activity for the children followed by a tasty bite to eat.

See the magazine, Pew News, church website (theunitedbenefice.co.uk) or church noticeboards for more details.

If you would like to talk about any of the above, please contact one of the clergy:

Rev'd Sarah Feaster 01423 330928 or

Rev'd Wilf Gowing 01423 331177