

<i>For church use only</i>	<b>Baptism Date and Time:</b>	<b>Date &amp; time of home visit:</b>
----------------------------	-------------------------------	---------------------------------------

St. Michael's Smarden, and All Saints Biddenden.  
**Application for Baptism of Children**

*Congratulations. We are delighted you are considering bringing your child for baptism  
Please read the notes overleaf.*

<i>Which church do you want the baptism to take place in?</i>	<i>How many people do you expect to invite?</i>
<i>What date and time would best suite for a Baptism?</i>	<i>Note: The date has to have been agreed with the Rector.</i>

<b>Date of Child's Birth</b>	
<b>Christian Names</b>	
<b>Child's Surname</b>	

<b>Parents:</b>	<b>FATHER</b>	<b>MOTHER</b>
<b>Full Christian Name(s)</b>		
<b>Surname</b>		
<b>Address with postcode</b>		
<b>Email</b>		
<b>Telephone</b>		
<b>Occupation</b>		
<b>Baptised? (Y/N)</b>		
<b>Confirmed? (Y/N)</b>		

<b>Godparents:</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Baptised?</b>
<small>Minimum number is two, often it is three. Gender is imaterial</small>	<b>1</b>		
	<b>2</b>		
	<b>3</b>		

<b>Other Children:</b>	<b>Name &amp; date of birth</b>
<b>1</b>	
<b>2</b>	
<b>3</b>	

*Any queries regarding this form please contact the Rector: Rev'd Alex Bienfait 01580 291454.  
A baptism is not 'booked' until you have heard from the Rector in response to your application  
Address: The Rectory, 36 High Street, Biddenden, TN27 8AH.*

## **Baptism notes**

Baptisms normally take place at All Age Family services on the 3rd Sunday of the month. They can also take place at other services by negotiation. We also recognise it is not always convenient to arrange a baptism in a main service so we set aside the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 12:30pm for Baptisms.

We normally need at least one month's notice before a Baptism takes place.

Once this form has been returned, we will contact you. A time will be arranged meet you and discuss the service in detail.

### **Parents and God Parents Baptised?**

Church law requires that both Parents and God Parents must themselves be baptised. If this is not the case Baptism can be arranged separately or at the same time as the service. There is a separate Adult Baptism form for those over 16 to complete.

### **Is there a maximum or minimum age for baptism?**

Children and adults can be baptised at any age. If a child is old enough to understand, we will spend time explaining and going through the service with them.

### **Children who live outside the parish?**

Baptism requires parents to make a serious commitment about the way they bring children up within the church family. The Church of England therefore recommends that the best place for baptism is locally to where you and the child live. If you live outside one of our parishes, please contact the Rector. We are often easily able to arrange a baptism, but we ask you to make contact with your local church first before arranging a baptism with us.

### **Music**

If there are particular songs you would like to sing and the Baptism is to take place in a All Age Family Service, please let us know.

Where a baptism takes place as a separate service, we can also include hymns, but you will need ask, and a fee for the organist is payable.

### **Fees for Baptism service?**

There is no fee for a baptism service. However we greatly depend upon your generous support, and we normally take a collection at a Baptism service.

Alex Bienfait.

12<sup>th</sup> October 2010