



Methodist
Church

St. Mark's Church

www.thisischurch.com

GODPARENTS



Church of
England

Welcome to St. Mark's Church, we are pleased that you have been asked to be a godparent at a baptism service in our church. This information is written to help you understand what is involved and expected from you. Being a godparent is undoubtedly a privilege and a recognition of your place as a trusted friend of the family. Sometimes parents will choose people recognised in a legal will as potential guardians. It should always be a demonstration by the parents that they value your presence in the Christian upbringing of their child.

With the undoubted pleasure of being asked, come some expectations and responsibilities, the really important feature of a godparent is that they must be able to take the promises seriously. Specifically as a godparent you have a responsibility to share in encouraging the child into faith in God as they grow up. The promises of Christian faith which you are required to make can be found on the back of this card. You are asked to promise that you will love and encourage the child in the Christian faith by prayer, example and teaching. If you cannot in conscience affirm these basic statements of the Christian faith then the best thing would be to offer to attend the service as a 'supporter' of the child. You can then stand alongside the godparents but not say things which you do not believe. We hope that you enjoy the special day.

Who To Contact -

You may contact our church offices for enquiries

St Mark's Church Office Telephone/Fax 01234 342613
Calder Rise, Bedford. MK41 7UY office@thisischurch.com

Vicar The Reverend Charles Royden Tel 01234 309175
Email vicar@thisischurch.com

An extract from the baptism service

(You will be asked to gather at the front of the church around the font to affirm your faith. When you say these responses please do so in an audible voice.)

The minister says to the parents and godparents:

You have brought this child to baptism. You must now declare before God and His Church the Christian faith into which she/he is to be baptised, and in which you will help her/him to grow. You must answer for yourself and for her/him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who made the world?

Answer: I believe and trust in him

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ, who redeemed humankind?

Answer: I believe and trust in him

Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God?

Answer: I believe and trust in him

You have now only just begun to be a godparent, in the years ahead please remember you have promised that you will seek to encourage your godchild in the Christian faith. Take time to pray for them and by your words and example enable them to grow in knowledge and obedience to God.

Name of child _____

Name of godparent _____

If you would like to discuss being a godparent with the Minister either now or in the future, please telephone to make an appointment. To obtain further information you may also visit our website at www.thisischurch.com We also have available a copy of our booklet 'What is the Christian faith.' This is available on our website or you can obtain a copy free of charge from our church office.