

# The Parish of Brereton and Rugeley



## Baptisms

Thank you for considering booking a Baptism at one of the Churches in the Parish of Brereton and Rugeley.

You might be interested to know that a Christening and Baptism are the same thing and both refer to the same Service.

### **Enquiring about a Baptism**

If you would like to book a Baptism at one of our Churches, please come along to our Office Hours:

- The Office Hours at St. Augustine's Church, Rugeley, take place on Saturday mornings between 10:00am – 11:00am at St. Augustine's Church.
- The Office Hours at St. Michael's Church, Brereton, take place on Monday evenings between 7:00pm – 8:00pm in the vestry office at St. Michael's Church – that's the side door of the Church, opposite the door to the Hall. Please note that we do not hold Office Hours on Bank Holiday Mondays.
- The Office Hours at the Church of The Holy Spirit, Etching Hill, take place on Saturday mornings between 9:00am – 10:00am.
- Please contact Rev Dr David Evans if you would like a Baptism at The Church of the Good Shepherd, Pear Tree Estate, Rugeley.
- Please contact Rev Dr David Evans if you would like a Baptism at St. John's Church, Slitting Mill.

### **Baptism Preparation**

When you come to our Office Hours to enquire about a Baptism Service, we will first book to you in for one of our preparation sessions. Preparation sessions take place on a Saturday morning between 10:30am – 12:30pm, usually in St. Augustine's Church Hall, but occasionally in one of our other Church Halls.

The preparation sessions take place several times a year for all those seeking a Baptism for their child or themselves. During the session we talk about the meaning of Baptism, explain what will happen during a Baptism service and answer any questions that you might have. Other families who are also enquiring about Baptisms within the Parish, will also be attending the session. As there are often many families there, it is easier if children can be left with baby sitters.

### **Booking a Baptism**

We can only book a Baptism after you have attended one of our preparation sessions. Once you have attended a preparation session, please come back to the Church that you would like the Baptism at, during the Office Hours and we will be then book the Baptism with you.

### **Baptism Dates**

Please do not come to book a Baptism with a set date in mind. Unfortunately we are not able to have Baptisms every week due to the Churches and Ministers commitments and availability.

The usual pattern is to offer Baptisms at St. Augustine's Church on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 12:30pm.

The usual pattern is to offer Baptisms at St. Michael's Church on the 1st and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month at 12:30pm.

However, there are occasions when we are not able to hold Baptism on those dates and so have to change this pattern for a variety of reasons.

### **God Parents**

Traditionally a baby boy would have two male God Parents and one female, and a baby girl would have two female God Parents and one male. Today, people vary with how many male and female God Parents they choose for a child. We try to encourage people not to choose more than four or five God Parents per child. Please choose people who are close to you and your child and who will make a good role model for your child. Most importantly, they must be Baptised themselves in order to be a God Parent. Adults seeking a Baptism do not need to choose God Parents.

### **Fees**

There is no fee for a Baptism. However if you would like to make a donation towards work of the Church that the Baptism is to take place at, a suggested amount is £25, but of course anything would be gratefully appreciated. If you are a UK tax payer, please consider filling in one of our Gift Aid envelopes so that the Church can receive the full donation you make. Thank you.

