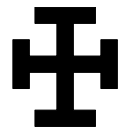




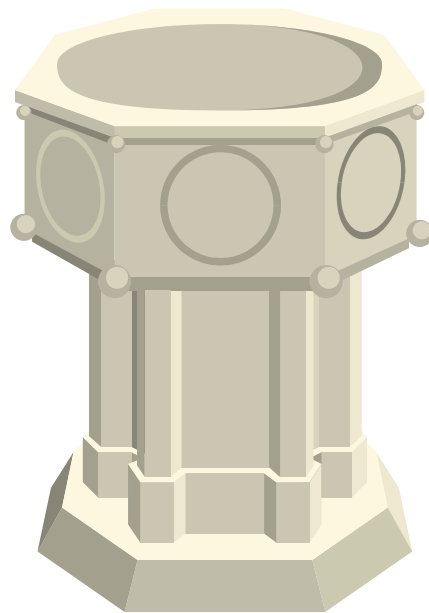
**THE PARISH OF CHEADLE  
WITH FREEHAY**



*Thank you for asking about*

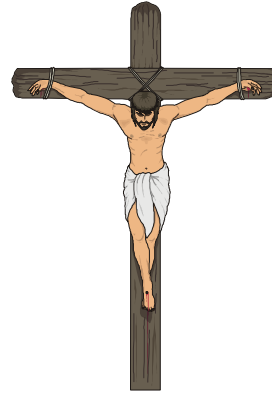


**BAPTISM**



### *WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?*

A Christian is someone who has made a decision that in their lives they want to be like Jesus.



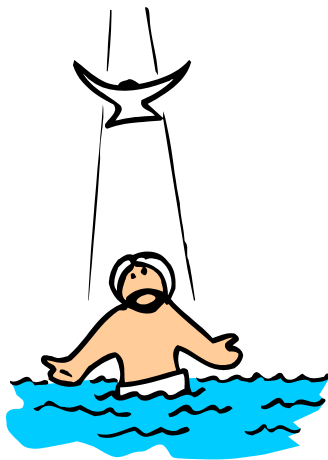
### *WHAT IS BAPTISM?*

We are not born Christians we have to make a conscious decision to become one. Baptism is the occasion when such a decision is made public and when a start is made to live a Christian life following the example of Jesus Christ.

From the time of Jesus the Church has regarded baptism as the first, most important step in the Christian's life – a decisive act of witness, a public profession of belief.



Baptism is the way in which we become a **member** of the Church. It is through baptism that we are adopted by God as his children and become part of his family.



The Church takes the service of baptism **very seriously** indeed. It is not simply a pleasant, social occasion for family and friends. It is not just another precaution against life's risks and dangers, like injections against measles and whooping cough.

From early days of the Church babies and young children have been baptised **BUT** only if parents and godparents are prepared to make certain promises and statements for themselves and that they will help and encourage the child to come to a similar commitment itself.

***BAPTISM IS NOT SOMETHING TO BE  
UNDERTAKEN LIGHTLY***

The Parents and godparents are expected to be Christians themselves and to do all in their power because they believe it is important, to bring the child to faith and love for Christ too.

**The godparents must be baptised and one of them should be a confirmed Christian**

The parents and godparents will be expected to make the following promises in the service:

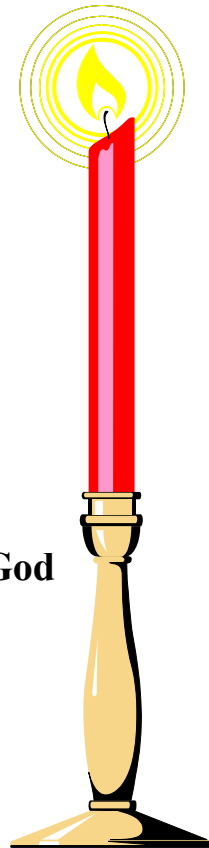
- ✝ **I turn to Christ**
- ✝ **I repent of my sins**
- ✝ **I renounce evil**

And the following statements:

I believe and trust in:

- ✝ **God the Father who made the world**
- ✝ **His Son Jesus Christ who redeemed mankind**
- ✝ **His Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God**

You should think seriously about whether you can honestly make these promises in public.





## THE PARISH OF CHEADLE WITH FREEHAY



### SERVICE TIMES FOR SUNDAYS

8am The Eucharist (St. Giles)  
9.15am The Eucharist (St. Chads)  
10.30am The Parish Eucharist (St. Giles)

### The Rector

Fr. Ian C. Thurston  
The Rectory  
Church Street  
Cheadle  
Staffs  
ST10 1HU  
[www.cheadleparish.co.uk](http://www.cheadleparish.co.uk)  
Tel 01538 753337

### Baptism / Wedding Co-ordinator

Jane Harrison 01538 750719

