

## Questions that are often asked

### **Who can be a godparent?**

You should have at least two Godparents: one of each gender. Traditionally, there are at least two Godparents of the same gender as the child and one of the opposite gender. Godparents can be family members or friends. However, it is important that you choose people who will take an interest in your child's spiritual welfare and who will pray for you and your child. They should be baptised themselves and mature enough to act as a Godparent.

### **What happens if one of the godparents can't come to the Baptism?**

Of course, they will make every effort to come if they possibly can but sometimes this is impossible. This doesn't stop them from being a godparent.

### **We're not married – can our child still be baptised?**

Yes. If you would like to discuss the possibility of getting married, the Vicar would be delighted to talk to you.

### **Can older children or adults be baptised?**

Yes. If you are considering this, please have a word with a member of the clergy.

### **We don't live in Brightlingsea - can we have our baby baptised here?**

It is usual to have your baby baptised in the parish where you live so that your child can be welcomed and grow in your local church family. However, if there are particular reasons why you would like to have the baptism here (e.g. family links), it may be possible to arrange with the agreement of your own local minister.

### **What does it cost?**

Baptism is a symbol of God's love for us which is freely given. We make no charge.