



Baptisms and Thanksgivings

We're thrilled that you're thinking about celebrating the new life of your child in a Christian way. And we're pleased to be involved, and to celebrate with you, as you bring your child before God. The Anglican Parish of Georgetown + Waratah offers two types of services to celebrate the birth of a child:

A Thanksgiving Service

- This service can be held at any time and venue the family chooses (e.g. in a home, park or church), by arrangement with the priest.
- A donation of \$100 is offered to the priest on the day of the service.
- Certificates are issued to the child and Godparents to acknowledge this event.
- Please note that this service does not in any way replace the Sacrament of Baptism.

A Baptism Service

- This is a service which can only be held in the church, on set dates throughout the year.
- The parents must be committed members of the Church, living their faith by example.
- Baptism requires serious promises about the Christian faith, about continued church membership and attendance by the whole family, and of a commitment to bring the child up to follow Jesus.
- To help parents prepare to make and keep the promises they will make in the baptism service, we expect parents to complete the "Pilgrim" course. This is a course on Christian belief, typically held over six weeks.

An Important Decision

The birth of a child is a very significant event. And the fact that you are reading this document shows that you have a deep desire to do something special – that you want to "bring your child before God". And of course, you may also have some added pressure from relatives or friends to "get the baby done".

To assist you with your decision about how to proceed, some phrases you might agree with have been listed below. Think about which statements most closely match your beliefs.

Thanksgiving Service	Baptism Service
I believe in God and need the assurance that God knows my child.	I believe in God and need the assurance that God knows my child.
I feel the need to celebrate the birth of and to name my child.	I feel the need to celebrate the birth of and to name my child.
I believe you don't have to go to church to be a Christian.	I believe that Jesus' actions invite a faith response from me.
Being a good person is enough for a blessed journey.	I am a disciple of Jesus Christ and want to teach my child to follow him.
Attending Christian Worship is important to me on special occasions or family events such as weddings.	I am committed to worshipping regularly with the local church.



Anglican Parish of Georgetown + Waratah

Baptism/Thanksgiving Form

Now that you've read the information on the previous page, please fill out this form, and return it to us at 7 Wentworth Street, Georgetown NSW 2298, or bring the completed form with you when you meet with the priest who will perform the ceremony. Or, email the information to priest@gwanglican.org.au

Child's Full Name: _____

Child's Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Type of service (Thanksgiving/Baptism): _____

Preferred Time/Date/Place of Ceremony* (Thanksgiving service only): _____

Mother's Full Name: _____

Father's Full Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

Family Email: _____

Godparent: _____

Godparent: _____

Godparent: _____

Godparent: _____

*Time/date/place needs to be confirmed with the priest who will conduct the ceremony.

If you'd like more information, or need some more advice about which type of service is right for you, please contact The Revd Bryce Amner on 0425 746 839, or email priest@gwanglican.org.au