

Baptism & Confirmation



St James's Church Piccadilly

Love, Indiscriminate and Eternal

To be baptised means that there has been a conscious decision to recognise that our lives are part of a bigger story, and that this story matters.



It is a story of love, a divine love indiscriminate and eternal, that welcomes and holds who we are, whether we are young or old, have been Christian all our lives, or have just started exploring the faith.

Baptism and Confirmation are sacred signs through which we affirm our desire to grow into the unique person that God is calling us to be. Baptism is the first fundamental step into the Christian Church, and people can be baptised as infants or adults.

Baptism is rooted in the most ancient traditions of the church. We know that Jesus Christ was baptised in the River Jordan and we continue in that heritage. In baptism, there are big symbols: water, oil, cross, light – which come together to create a special service in which those being baptised are welcomed into the St James's community and also into the wider Christian Church worldwide.

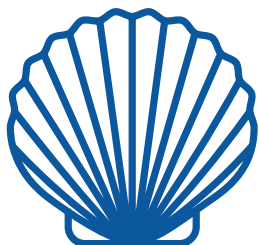


Our services

Confirmation is an optional subsequent service for teenagers and adults. It is a way for an adult to confirm, in their own voice, the promises that have been made on their behalf if they were baptised as children, or to develop a relationship with a particular denomination of the church, such as the Church of England.

Whether you are choosing to be baptised yourself or you are making the decision on behalf of a child, know that you are welcome here. We would love to be part of your story.

We offer baptism to anyone who lives or works in our parish or otherwise has a strong connection to our parish or our church. Should you live outside our parish boundaries, we would seek the good will of your local parish priest that we may baptise you or your child.



Next steps

In preparation for the baptism of a child, a member of the clergy will meet with parents at least once, depending on your familiarity with Christian faith.

We prepare adults for baptism and confirmation by way of a 4-6 week course, which we run once or twice a year, usually to coincide with the regular confirmation services at St Paul's Cathedral.

It is important to bear in mind that baptisms are always a public service, whether they occur within a Sunday Eucharist or at another time.

When children are being baptised, there's always a possibility of more than one family participating in the service. We cannot offer 'private baptisms' for individual families.

Please review The Church of England's guidance before meeting with a member of the clergy, when choosing godparents, please note that they must have been baptised themselves.

www.churchofengland.org/life-events/christenings



Fees

There is no charge for a baptism service, although there is a fee of £15 for an optional baptism certificate and we welcome any additional donations to support the life and ministry of our church.



How to find us

St James's Church
197 Piccadilly
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020 7292 4860
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www.sjp.org.uk

The church is less than 200 yards from Piccadilly Circus Station.

Registered Charity No. 1133048

SJP Baptism & Confirmation Leaflet 2022