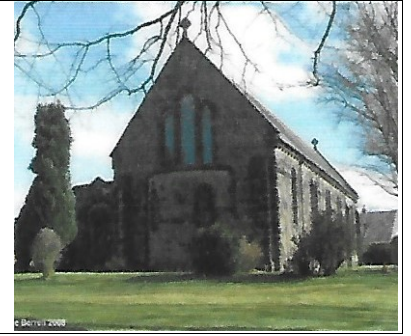




**St. Margaret's
Church, Holyrood,
Prestwich and
St. George's Church,
Simister, Prestwich.**



BAPTISM POLICY

Anyone who is resident within the parish of St. Margaret is eligible to be baptised in our churches. Anyone living outside the boundaries of the parish may still be baptised here by arrangement with the Clergy and in agreement with their own Parish Clergy.

Baptisms are normally held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at St. Margaret's and the 2nd Sunday in the month at St. George's at 1.00pm unless other arrangements are agreed with the Clergy. However, if agreed arrangements can be made for a baptism during the service of Holy Communion, preferably the 1st Sunday in the month during our Family Service at 9.45am.

Baptism is not just for babies and young children, but for adults as well. If you feel that this is the right time to become a member of the Christian faith you can be baptised at any time in your life.

Anyone interested in Baptism is asked to visit the Church Office in St. Margaret's Vicarage on a Thursday evening between 7p.m. and 8p.m to book the date of the baptism and fill in the required documentation. If unable to attend the Vicarage, please contact the Clergy to make alternative arrangements. See noticeboard for contact details.

If required a member of the Ministry Team will then visit the family prior to the date of the baptism service to talk through the service and finalise any last-minute details. Older candidates are asked to do some more formal preparation by discussion with the Clergy.

Baptism marks the beginning of a new life as a Christian and our church communities give all newly-baptised a special baptismal candle, certificate and prayer blanket. We hope that the newly-baptised and all the family will come and join us at one of our regular Sunday services, or Messy Church once a month on a Wednesday. Children from 3 years may join Sunday School.

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

The Church of England offers an alternative 'Service of Thanksgiving' for parents who do not yet feel able to make the promises contained in the Baptism service on behalf of their children. The service provides an opportunity to thank God for the birth of the child, give the child a name and pray for the child and family.

We offer the opportunity to the parents of young children, to be informed of any special events & services specifically for children during the Church Year. If you change your address or do not wish to receive information, please sign the Baptism form accordingly when you make your original visit.

If you would like more information on these options, please visit the Church Office at St. Margaret's Vicarage on Thursday evening between 7p.m. and 8p.m.

Approved by the PCC...18.06.2018.....