

THE GREEK CATHEDRAL OF THE DIVINE WISDOM, AGHIA SOPHIA

CHILDRENS' BAPTISMS – BAPTISM GUIDE

Godparents

- The Godparent must be an **Orthodox Christian** (recommended age: **12+ years**).
- Must be able to recite the **Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed** (*Πιστεύω*) in Greek or English, and read the Catechism Dialogue with the priest during the first part of the service.
 Creed: [Nicene Creed – GOARCH](#)
- Required documents:
 - Child's **birth certificate**
 - Proof that the Godparent(s) are Orthodox (e.g. baptism certificate)

 Baptisms do **not** take place during **Holy Week** or on **Christmas Day**, unless special permission is given by the Archdiocese.

Required Items

Please prepare the following:

- 1 large **white or ivory baptismal towel**
- 1 large **white or ivory oil sheet** (*λαδόπανο*)
- 1 small **white or ivory towel** (for priest and godparent)
- 1 small bottle of **olive oil** (500 ml)
- 1 large **white baptismal candle**
- 1 bar of **white soap**
- 1 **white cap**
- 1 **white vest**
- New **white clothes** for the baby (to wear immediately after baptism)
- 1 **cross** (usually gold)

 Supplies available from:

- **C&M Christenings** (07707 530538 | cmchristenings@gmail.com)
 - **Anna's Christening Centre, Edmonton** [Website](#)
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Bookings

- Provisional booking held for **2 weeks only** (max. 2 provisional dates per family).

- Priests: **Fr Nephon** (Cathedral Dean) or **Fr Theonas** (Dean Emeritus).
 - Requests for specific priests are noted but cannot be guaranteed.
 - No advance notice if the requested priest is unavailable.
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Fees

- **Deposit:** £100 (non-refundable, required to confirm booking)
- **Baptism Fees:**
 - £600 – for one child
 - £750 – for twins

Payment:

- **Bank Transfer:** HSBC Bank – Greek Cathedral St Sophia
 - Sort Code: 40-05-33 | A/C: 61506935
 - Reference: Your name + Baptism date
 - **Cheque:** Payable to *Greek Cathedral St Sophia*
 -  No card payments accepted
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Choir, Chanter & Cross

- A chanter will be provided at no extra cost.
 - In addition, you can pick one of the following options:
 - **Choir with Cross:** £760 (includes a £100 non-refundable deposit)
 - **Cross only:** £100 (paid in cash to the Verger on the day)
 - Orthodox chanting is part of the Baptism Service.
 -  No other music or singing allowed.
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On the Day Arrive **max. 15 minutes before** the start time.

- Please wait quietly outside if another ceremony is in progress.
 - Services last approx. **35 minutes**.
 - Punctuality is essential:
 - If more than **5–10 minutes late**, the baptism may be cancelled.
 - Fees are **non-refundable** if cancelled due to lateness.
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Parking

-  No on-site parking.
- Nearby: **Moscow Road** & surrounding streets (pay-and-display).
- Free parking:
 - After **1:30 pm on Saturdays**
 - All day **Sundays** (single yellow lines & meters).

Contact Information

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