

## THE GREEK CATHEDRAL OF THE DIVINE WISDOM, AGHIA SOPHIA

### CHILDRENS' BAPTISMS – BAPTISM GUIDE 2026

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#### 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.

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#### 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](mailto: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 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
  - £800 – 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, Cross & Chanter


- In addition, you have to pick one of the following options:
    - **Choir with Cross:** £760 (includes a £100 non-refundable deposit)
    - or
    - **Chanter:** £100
  - Orthodox chanting is part of the Baptism Service.
    -  No other music or singing allowed.
  - You can ask our Verger to light the Cross for a separate fee of £100 (paid in cash to him on the day of the service) but you must still choose between having the choir or a chanter.
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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).
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### **Contact Information**

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