

Messy Celebration Southwark Splash

Saturday 19th January 2019 10.30-12.30

The Gathering

Gathering song

11.25 Welcome everybody (Fischy Music) Piano & singers

*During this song, bring up art work and place in front of baptism pool.
Prayer bunting to be hung across choir stalls.*

40 people will be given empty cups to top up the baptism pool.

Those involved with celebration move to positions in tower space.

Baptism candidates/supporters sit by tower space on south transept.

Keep north transept clear for singing team & core team.

The Greeting

11.32 Canon Missioner

Hello everyone, on behalf of the cathedral, I would like to welcome you all to a very special Messy Celebration of Baptism. I hope that you visited some of the activities around the Cathedral, exploring the theme of baptism through science, craft, prayer and song.

As we start our celebration, to help us to worship God and so that we're not distracted, please turn your phones to silent and refrain from taking photographs during this service. We have some photographers who are taking pictures for us.

During the service there will be times when you have some words to say out loud and to sign. Our congregational leader, is going to explain.

Congregational leader - practice with the congregation "With the help of God we will" and "Amen"

All congregational responses & songs to be signed in Makaton

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect

11.35 **Bishop:** Words of welcome & invitation for baptism

A special prayer to begin, written by one of our baptism candidates:

Awesome God,

You knew us, loved us, and had plans for us since before we were born.
Please bring us closer to you today. We ask in the name of Jesus.

Amen

The Liturgy of the Word

11.37 Jesus' baptism Matthew 3:13-17 retold by storyteller

Intercession

11.42 **Bishop**

Many of you have already written prayers for those being baptised and for our brothers and sisters around the world.

Congregational leader: We have prayed for our candidates and made this bunting for them to take home, with prayers on. We have said sorry prayers for when we mess-up. Release International have helped us to pray for Christians around the world - some who face difficulties because they choose to follow Jesus and we have prayed for Christian Aid projects that help with water poverty in developing countries [*Indicate the things made during activities e.g. Bunting - hanging up behind the pool.*]

Bishop:

Father God, we lift these prayers to you

Congregational leader: Amen

The Liturgy of Baptism

Introduction to Baptism

11.43 **Bishop**

Jesus told us that entering God's kingdom is like being born all over again. He called it being born of water and the Spirit. He has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new, second, birth. Here the Holy Spirit washes us and makes us clean. Here Jesus turns our lives around, helping us to let go of sin so that we can take hold of his risen life. As children of God, we have a new dignity and God calls us to live life to the full.

Presentation of the Candidates

11.44 Rev. *Canon Missioner brings candidates & supporters to tower space*

Here are the people getting baptised today

Bishop: *to candidates*

(Name) Do you wish to be baptised?

Candidates respond, one after the other

I do.

Canon Missioner interviews the candidates to give a short testimony.

11.55 **Bishop:**

Faith is the gift of God to his people.

In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome x and y and uphold them in their new life in Christ?

Congregational leader & congregation:

With the help of God, we will.

Bishop *to the* Godparents:

Godparents, the Church receives (name) and (name) with joy. Today we are trusting God for their growth in faith. Will you pray for them, draw them by your example into the community of faith and walk with them in the way of Christ?

Congregational leader encourages Godparents:

With the help of God, we will.

In baptism (name) and (name) continue their journey in faith. You speak for them today. Will you care for them, and help them to take their place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

Congregational leader encourages Godparents:

With the help of God, we will.

The Decision

11.57 **Bishop:**

I've got some important questions to ask our candidates now.

(name) and *(name)* we all wander far from God and lose our way:

Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home.

In baptism we respond to his call.

Therefore I ask:

Do you turn away from sin?

I do.

Do you reject evil?

I do.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I do.

Do you trust in him as Lord?

I do.

Signing with the Cross

11.58 Bishop:

(Name) Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.

(Name) Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.

When they have both been signed

Bishop:

Do not be ashamed of Christ. You are his for ever.

Congregational leader leads congregational response:

Stand bravely with him / against all the powers of evil, / and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

Bishop:

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

Congregational leader leads the congregational response: Amen

Prayer over the Water

12.00 Core team will have already handed out 40 cups. They are invited to fill the font/baptism pool with water from a bucket on stage.

Congregational leader:

While we sing this prayer of praise over the water, we invite those of you who have been given a cup to come and top up the font with their water. Our singers and signers are going to lead us:

Piano, singers & signers
(to the tune of Let's Go Fly a Kite)

Praise God, who made heav'n and earth,
Praise God, who made heav'n and earth, Who
keeps his promises for ever and ever.
Let's give thanks to God.
Let's give our thanks and praise. Let's
all give thanks to God.

12.04 *Congregational leader:*

As Bishop leads this next prayer, listen carefully and have a think about the different activities you did earlier and how they fit into this prayer. When Bishop says "Saving God" we will say "Give us life"

Bishop:

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ
was baptised in the river Jordan, we
thank you for the gift of water to
cleanse us and revive us.

Saving God,

Congregational leader with congregation: give us life.

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea
you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the
Promised Land.

Saving God,

Congregational leader with congregation: give us life.

We thank you that through the deep waters of death you brought your Son, and raised him to life in triumph.

Saving God,

Congregational leader with congregation: give us life.

Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.

Saving God,

Congregational leader with congregation: give us life.

Send your Holy Spirit upon them, bring them to new birth in the household of faith and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life; for all might, majesty, authority and power are yours, now and for ever.

Amen.

Saving God,

Congregational leader with congregation: give us life.

Profession of Faith

12.06 Bishop:

Earlier, in our activity time, we had the chance to think about what we believe about God, about Jesus and about the Holy Spirit, and how we trust in God. Did anyone have a go at the 3 in 1 bubble activity?

Congregational leader to hold up enlarged picture of bubble activity.

In baptism, (*name*) and (*name*) are going to be baptised into this Christian understanding of God. It's an understanding that they will be sharing with us and with the Christian Church all over the world and in every age. So let's agree together that this is our faith:

This is the faith of the Church.

Congregational leader with congregation:

This is our faith. /

**We believe and trust in one God, / Father,
Son and Holy Spirit.**

Baptism

12.07 Bishop:

(Name) and (name) is this your faith?

Each of them answers in their own words, or This is my faith.

Bishop

Candidate1 into pool & Bishop with helper into the pool.

Bishop Karowei dips each of them in water, or pours water on them, saying

Bishop:

Name, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregational leader with congregation: Amen.

Bishop: *extends a hand towards (name) and (name) and says*

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. **Congregational leader with congregation: Amen.**

Bishop and candidates go to get changed.

12.17 *Congregational leader:*

Whilst our candidates and Bishop get changed, could you give me a wave if you have been baptised or Christened as a baby?

We now want to remind you of your baptism and sprinkle you with water. Who made a bundle of rosemary? This can be dipped in water and used to sprinkle water. This is called asperging. If you have made a rosemary, please come forward and collect a cup of water from the pool, to help our team asperge the congregation, reminding us all of baptism?

Commission

Congregational leader:

Whilst they are doing that, we are going to sing a couple of songs that remind us of the importance of belonging in God's family, alongside parents, godparents, brothers and sisters. We're also going to sing about belonging to the Church, both our local church and the world wide church. Some of us did prayer activities that helped us think about Christians around the world.

Songs x 2 *Piano, singers & signers*

- 1) Written in the palm of God's hand (Fischy music)
- 2) Whole world in His hands (Traditional African American - Obie Philpot)

Bishop and candidates return

The Welcome

12.24 **Bishop:**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
(Name) and (name), by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

Godparents say on behalf of the congregation

We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; We are children of the same heavenly Father; We welcome you.

Congregational leader leads everyone: We welcome you!

Everyone bursts into applause

The Sending Out

12.24 **Giving of a Bible and a Lighted Candle**

Congregational leader:

We are going to give (name) and (name) 2 items to take home: Firstly, a Bible to help them in their journey of faith. Secondly, a candle to remind them of the light of Christ. If those of you who have been asked to present the Bible and light a candle come forward now. Whilst they are doing that, just give me a wave if you made a candle earlier or hold it in the air. We are going to sing a song called Shine.

Bibles and Candles are given to the candidates during which song is sung.

Song

Piano, singers, & signers

Shine, from the inside out (Nick Jackson, Hillsong Music)

12.27 **Bishop:**

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.
You have received the light of Christ; walk in this
light all the days of your life.

Congregational leader:

Shine as a light in the world / to the glory of God the Father.

The Dismissal

12.28 *Closing remarks Canon Missioner*

We are getting near to the end of our celebration. Thanks for coming. If anything has touched your spirit in a deep way today, perhaps you'd like to get to know more about Jesus and belong in God's family, please tell us before you leave and we'd love to pray with you.

There will be a retiring collection for Christian Aid & Messy Church.

As you leave, the musicians will sing us out with 'Shine'.

But first our final blessing prayer.

Bishop:

Let's pray for each other in the words and actions many Messy Churches use.
Please repeat after me:

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ

Congregational leader: **May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ**

And the love of God

Congregational leader: **And the love of God**

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit

Congregational leader: **And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit**

Be with us all evermore

Congregational leader: **Be with us all evermore, Amen**

Repeat Shine song to leave by. Those in tower space depart informally.