

The Lord's Prayer

The minister says

Jesus taught us to call God our Father,
and so in faith and trust we say

All Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Blessing

The minister says the blessing

The Lord bless you and watch over you,
the Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you,
the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.



**St Mark's Church
Bedford**

*Diocese of St Albans
Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church*



An Order of Service for Thanksgiving and Naming of a Child

The Ceremony

The parents and sponsors of the child are invited to stand at the front of the church.

The works of the Lord are great:

All His mercy endures for ever.

Mary gave birth to a child and called him Jesus:

All He will save his people from their sins.

He will be called the Prince of Peace:

All His kingdom will last for ever.

The minister says

Loving God,
you hold all things in life
and call us into your kingdom of peace;
help us to walk the path of your truth
and fill our lives with gratitude and faith,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Naming and Thanksgiving

The parents present the child to the minister who says

Do you receive this child as a gift from God?

We do.

Do you wish to give thanks to God and seek his blessing as you name this child?

We do.

The minister says

God our creator,
we thank you for the wonder of new life
and for the mystery of human love.
We thank you for all whose support and skill
surround and sustain the beginning of life.
We thank you that we are known to you by name
and loved by you from all eternity.
We thank you for Jesus Christ,
who has opened to us the way of love.
We praise you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

The minister says

What name have you given this child?

The parents reply

His/her name is N.

The minister takes the child and says

As Jesus took children in his arms and blessed them,
so now we ask God's blessing on N.

Heavenly Father, we praise you for his/her birth;
surround him/her with your blessing
that he/she may know your love,
be protected from evil,
and know your goodness all his/her days.

**All May they learn to love all that is true,
grow in wisdom and strength
and, in due time, come through faith and baptism
to the fullness of your grace;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

The minister prays for the parents

May God the Father of all bless these parents
and give them grace to love and care for their children.
May God give them wisdom, patience and faith,
help them to provide for the children's needs
and, by their example,
reveal the love and truth that are in Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

The minister addresses the supporting friends and says

Will you do all that you can to help and support N and N in
the bringing up of N?
With the help of God, we will.

The minister addresses the wider family and friends and says

Will you do all that you can to help and support this family?
With the help of God, we will.

Prayer

This prayer is said by the parents and the whole congregation

**God our creator,
we thank you for the gift of this child,
entrusted to our care.
May we be patient and understanding,
ready to guide and to forgive,
so that through our love
they may come to know your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**