**Baby Dedication Service Instructions**

 The dedication of your baby is a very special occasion for you and your family and one that is great to invite family and friends to.

On the day of your baby dedication, we will reserve the front row of seats for you, your friends and family. Please just take your seats when you arrive. The service will start at 11:00am.

There will be 2-3 songs of worship followed by the baby dedication. The pastor will open with some information about what a baby dedication is and show a video of your baby (maximum 2-3 minutes). After about 5 minutes the pastor will invite you to come to the stage with your baby and any siblings. There will be a sofa on stage for you to sit on. The pastor will continue the dedication part of the service.

The pastor will ask one of you to read out the baby’s dedication scripture so please bring that with you. The pastor will also ask one of the parents to say a prayer of thanksgiving to God for your new baby and your desire to have your baby dedicated. It is a good idea to write out this prayer in case your mind goes blank on the day. You can choose to read out your prayer if you wish or say the prayer.

The pastor will then take your baby and hold and dedicate your baby. The pastor will use “anointing oil” and place a drop of this on your baby’s head. This symbolises being set apart for God and also the blessing and protection of the Holy Spirit. Please do let the pastor know if your baby has any allergies beforehand.

After this, you will receive a baby dedication certificate and please do remember to take home with you the display bunch of flowers on the stage as they are a gift to the family.