

## DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE



*✠ Rt Rev Séamus Cunningham  
Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle*



Dear Parent,

I am delighted that you are presenting your child for Baptism.

Pope Francis, in his homily preached to the parents and families present at the baptism of infants on 8 January 2017 said:

You have asked for faith: the Church gives faith to your children with Baptism, and you have the task of making it grow, safeguarding it, so that it may become testimony for all others.

This is a very special moment in your child's life and one where you will be supported in your baptismal responsibility by the parish family. In thanksgiving and joy, bless your child by tracing the Sign of the Cross on their forehead, and pray for your child in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Please be assured of my support and prayers and of those of your parish community.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely in Christ

Right Reverend Séamus Cunningham  
Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle

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