

## The Uniting Church In Australia – Belrose Congregation – Infant Baptism and Blessing Services Information

We are pleased to receive your recent inquiry concerning a service for your child. The members of the Church wish to celebrate the birth of your child in a way that is most appropriate for you and the Church. Explanations of the services offered are outlined below. We invite you to consider which service will be most appropriate for you and to make an appointment to discuss these with the Pastor. God bless you.

NAME OF SERVICE	FOR WHOM CONDUCTED	PURPOSE OF THE SERVICE	REQUIRED OF THE PARENTS	REQUIRED OF THE CHURCH
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Service of Infant Baptism</b></p>	<p>The children of Parents who are members of the Congregation and who are committed to Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour; demonstrating that commitment by involvement in the Church.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To proclaim the Gospel; the use of water symbolising the inward cleansing from sin offered to us through the death of Jesus Christ.</li> <li>2. To give parents opportunity to acknowledge that their child belongs to God, promising to provide an example to their child of Christian discipleship and living.</li> <li>3. To involve the child in the life of the Church.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.</li> <li>2. To provide an example to the child of Christian living.</li> <li>3. To give their child opportunity to grow up in the life and faith of the Church.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To maintain a place of fellowship, nurture , care and worship where God's Word is honoured and Christian love and fellowship is demonstrated.</li> <li>2. To incorporate people of all ages into the life and fellowship of the Church.</li> <li>3. To enable children and young people to know and worship God.</li> </ol>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Service of Blessing</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Parents who do not wish to publicly declare faith in Jesus and/or are not involved in the life of the Church.</li> <li>2. Christian parents who prefer a service of dedication for their child instead of baptism.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To celebrate the birth of a child and acknowledge this gift from God.</li> <li>2. To pray for the blessing of God upon the child and parents.</li> <li>3. To encourage parents in their responsibilities for the child.</li> <li>4. For Christian parents: to dedicate their child to God.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A desire to have God's blessing upon their child.</li> <li>2. A commitment to be faithful, loving and responsible parents.</li> <li>3. For Christian parents: a public declaration of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and a desire to involve their child in the life and faith of the Church.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To pray for the child.</li> <li>2. To pray for and encourage the parents.</li> <li>3. To provide a place where the family can be nurtured and cared for, welcomed and encouraged.</li> <li>4. For Christian parents: provide a worshipping congregation where parents can be enabled to set an example of Christian living.</li> </ol>