



MANASSAS
ASSEMBLY
of GOD

Baby/Child Dedication

What is baby/child dedication?

A baby/child dedication is a ceremony in which believing parents, and sometimes entire families, make a commitment before the Lord to submit a child to God's will and to raise the child according to God's Word and God's ways. It is the act of giving back to God the gift He has given you as parents. It is an act of worship, thanksgiving, dependence, trust, and commitment.

Responsibilities Involved in baby dedication

Christian parents who dedicate a child are making a promise to the Lord to do everything within their power to raise the child in a godly way, until he or she can make a decision on their own to follow God. Some of the responsibilities include teaching and training the child in God's word, the Bible; demonstrating an example of godliness; and praying for the child.

Example of Baby Dedication in Scripture

Hannah brought her son Samuel to the priest, Eli, to dedicate him to the Lord. I Samuel 1:24-28. Mary and Joseph brought baby Jesus to the temple for his dedication.

Commonly Asked Questions

Is dedication the same as infant baptism or christening?

Baby or child dedication is different from infant baptism or christening. While these rites are significant for a variety of faiths, it is the practice of Manassas Assembly of God to dedicate children. We believe that baptism should take place after a person has made a personal choice to follow Jesus Christ.

When and where is baby/child dedication?

Child dedication is generally held every few months and is available in all three weekend services, Saturday at 6:00 pm, or Sunday at 9:00 and 10:45 am. For information on the next scheduled dedication service and, or to register contact Colette West at Colette@magchurch.org or by calling 703-368-2895.

I am a single parent. May I still dedicate my child?

Absolutely!

Who should we invite to the dedication service? Do I need to select "God parents" for my child?

The dedication of your child is a special time, so be sure to invite your family, friends or life group members. There is no limit to the number of guests you may invite. We do not use the term "God parents" at Manassas Assembly of God, but we certainly support your choice of significant individuals to offer support and encouragement.

Do I need to be a member of Manassas Assembly of God to dedicate my child?

Membership is not required, but we request that you be regular attendees with a desire to raise your child in a godly, Christ-centered home.

Who should I contact with additional questions?

Contact the Early Childhood Ministries Pastor at ruth@magchurch.org or 703-368-2895.