



DUBBO  
ANGLICAN  
CHURCH

to know Jesus and to make him known

## Service of Thanksgiving for a Child

*Name*

The minister introduces xxx to the congregation and gives a brief word of explanation of the significance of what we are doing today.

We have come together to celebrate God's gift of a child. Let us thank God for his goodness and pray for xxx and xxx in their role as parents.

### Bible Readings & Reflection

For you created my inmost being;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.  
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;  
your works are wonderful,  
I know that full well.  
My frame was not hidden from you  
when I was made in the secret place,  
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

(Psalm 139:13-15)

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

(Mark 10:13-16)

## The Welcome

The minister invites parents (and godparents) to come forward.

The minister may ask the following question:

What name have you given this child?

**We have named him/her xxx**

## The Thanksgiving

The minister invites the congregation to join in giving thanks to God for xxx

**Loving Father, thank you for the precious gift of xx.**

**Thank you for his/her safe arrival, his/her good health, and the joy he/she brings each day.**

**We thank you for the gift of parenthood and the joys of bringing children into your world.**

**Enable xxx and xxx to raise xxx in the care and security of a loving home.**

**Keep them safe from the evils of this world, that xxx might grow strong in his/her knowledge of you and of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## The Blessing

The minister asks xx and xxx

Do you seek God's blessing upon xxx as you bring him/her up as a citizen in God's world?

**We do**

The minister asks the godparents (if applicable)

Will you support xxx and xxx as they raise xxx as a citizen in God's world?

**We will**

Let us pray

God our Father, thank you for blessing xxx and xxx with the gift of a son/daughter.

Give them wisdom, love and patience in their relationship with each other and with their children. Guide them with your word in the fellowship for your Church so that they will come into a relationship with you, serve you and give you praise and honour; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The minister leads in prayer for God's blessing on xxx

xxx, may God bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make his face to shine upon you  
and be gracious to you.

May God look upon you with his favour  
and grant you his peace,

in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## **The Prayers**

The minister continues in prayer:

Loving Father, please help xxx and xxx to grow in love for you and in their understanding of your love for them. Please give them your wisdom and love as they seek to raise xxx. In the happy moments, may they give you thanks. In the trying moments, may they seek your help. In the tiring moments, please give them rest and refreshment. May xxx come to understand, that you are a wise, loving and faithful God. We ask all this, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The service concludes in prayer

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.**

