

# Service of Holy Baptism

## The Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all  
*All* **and also with you.**

## The Collect

*The priest introduces the opening prayer with the words 'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding.*

Heavenly Father,  
by the power of your Holy Spirit  
you give to your faithful people new life in  
the water of baptism.  
Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit,  
that we who are born again may serve you in faith and  
love, and grow into the full stature of your Son,  
Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity  
of the Holy Spirit now and for ever.  
*All* **Amen.**

## Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
*N.*  
*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
*All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Talk

### The Liturgy of Baptism

*The priest addresses the whole congregation*

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Do not stop  
them'.  
We thank God for *these children* who have come to be  
baptised today.  
Christ loves *them* and welcomes *them* into his Church.  
So I ask you all:  
Will you support *these children* as they begin their journey  
of faith?  
*All* **We will.**

Will you help *them* to live and grow within God's family?  
*All* **We will.**

*The president then addresses the parents and godparents*

God knows each of us by name and we are his.  
Parents and godparents, you speak for *these children*  
today.  
Will you pray for *them*, and help *them* to follow Christ?  
**We will.**

*The president asks those candidates for baptism who are  
able to answer for themselves*

Do you wish to be baptised? **I do.**

## The Decision

*The Paschal candle is lit. The priest addresses the parents,  
godparents and sponsors*

We all wander far from God and lose our way:  
Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home.  
In baptism we respond to his call.  
Therefore I ask:

Do you turn away from sin? **I do.**  
Do you reject evil? **I do.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour? **I do.**  
Do you trust in him as Lord? **I do.**

## Signing with the Cross

*The sign of the cross is made on the forehead of each  
candidate, and the following words are said:*  
Christ claims you for his own.  
Receive the sign of his cross.

*The priest may invite parents, godparents and sponsors to  
sign the candidates with the cross.*

Do not be ashamed of Christ. You are his for ever.

*All* **Stand bravely with him against all the  
powers of evil, and remain faithful to  
Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of  
darkness, and lead you in the light and obedience of  
Christ.  
*All* **Amen.**

## Prayer over the Water

*The priest stands before the water of baptism and says*

Praise God who made heaven and earth,  
*All* **who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

We praise you, loving Father, for the gift of your Son  
Jesus. He was baptised in the River Jordan,  
where your Spirit came upon him  
and revealed him as the Son you love.  
He sent his followers to baptise all who turn to him.  
Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water,  
that those who are baptised in it  
may be cleansed in the water of life,  
and, filled with your Spirit,  
may know that they are loved as your children,  
safe in Christ for ever.  
*All* **Amen.**

## Profession of Faith

*The priest addresses the congregation*

Let us affirm together with those being baptised all over the world today our common faith in Jesus Christ

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

All **I believe and trust in him**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

All **I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

All **I believe and trust in him**

This is the faith of the Church

All **This is our faith.  
We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

## Baptism

*The priest baptises each candidate, saying N, I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

All **Amen.**

You have been clothed with Christ  
As many as are baptised into Christ have put on Christ

May God who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

All **Amen**

## The Welcome

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:  
*N and N*, by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

All **We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.**

## Commission

*The priest addresses the congregation and leads them in prayer*

Faithful and loving God,  
bless those who care for *these children*  
and grant them your gifts of love, wisdom and faith.  
Pour upon them your healing and reconciling love,  
and protect their home from all evil.

Fill them with the light of your presence  
and establish them in the joy of your kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

God of grace and life,  
in your love you have given us  
a place among your people;  
keep us faithful to our baptism,  
and prepare us for that glorious day  
when the whole creation will be made perfect  
in your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
All **Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer** is said

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass  
against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen**

## Giving of a Lighted Candle

*The priest gives a lighted candle to each of the newly baptised.*

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness  
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;  
walk in this light all the days of your life.  
All **Shine as a light in the world  
to the glory of God the Father.**

## The Blessing

The God of all grace,  
who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus,  
establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father†, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.  
All **Amen.**

## The Dismissal

Go in the light and peace of Christ.  
All **Thanks be to God.**

