

Christening: Baptism Service

I. PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR CHILDREN

We rejoice today with the *family* of *N and N* as they thank God for the gift of life and bring *their children* for baptism...

2. PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome *these children* and uphold *them* in *their* new life in Christ?

All: **With the help of God, we will.**

Parents and godparents, the Church receives *these children* with joy. Today we are trusting God for *their* growth in faith.

Will you pray for them, draw them by your example into the community of faith and walk with them in the way of Christ?

Parents and Godparents: **With the help of God, we will.**

In baptism *these children* begin their journey in faith. You speak for *them* today. Will you care for *them*, and help *them* to take *their* place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

Parents and Godparents: **With the help of God, we will.**

3. THE DECISION

Parents and Godparents only

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

I come to Christ.

4. PROFESSION OF FAITH *All stand.*

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

5. THE BAPTISM

N, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

After each baptism the candidate is signed with the cross,

Christ claims you for His own; receive the sign of His cross. Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**All: Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ
against sin, the world and the devil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

6. PRAYER AFTER BAPTISM

7. THE WELCOME

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

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

Giving of a lighted candle

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.

Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.