

Holy Baptism

The Gathering of the Community

All stand. The presiding celebrant greets the community.

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

People **And also with you.**

Or from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost,

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Celebrant May his grace and peace be with you.

People **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

The celebrant then continues,

People There is one body and one Spirit,
There is one hope in God's call to us;

Celebrant One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

People **One God and Father of all.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray.

The community may pray silently. The presiding celebrant then sings or says the collect, after which all respond, Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

The Readings

The first reading as appointed.

Reader A reading from . . .

At the conclusion of the passage, the reader says,

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may be kept. Then shall follow a psalm as appointed.

A second reading as appointed is read.

Reader A reading from . . .

At the conclusion of the passage, the reader says,

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may be kept. A psalm, canticle, hymn, or anthem may follow.

All stand for the Gospel.

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to . . .

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

At the conclusion of the Gospel, the reader says,

The Gospel of Christ.

People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

A silence for reflection may follow.

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The celebrant says,

The candidate(s) for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Adults and Older Children

Candidates able to answer for themselves are presented by their parents and sponsors as follows:

Sponsor I present *N* to receive the sacrament of baptism.

The celebrant asks each candidate when presented,

Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate I do.

Infants and Younger Children

Then the candidates unable to answer for themselves are presented individually by their parents and sponsors as follows:

Parents and sponsors,

I present *N* to receive the sacrament of baptism.

When all have been presented the celebrant asks the parents and sponsors,

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is nurtured in the faith and life of the Christian community?

Parents and sponsors,

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and sponsors,

I will, with God's help.

Then the celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the parents and sponsors who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children.

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Saviour?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

When there are others to be presented, the bishop says,

The other candidate(s) will now be presented.

Presenters I present *these persons* for Confirmation.

Or I present *these persons* to be received into this Communion.

Or I present *these persons* who *desire* to reaffirm *their* baptismal vows.

The bishop asks the candidates,

Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidate I do.

Celebrant Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?
Candidate I do.

Celebrant Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?
Candidate I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Saviour and Lord.

After all have been presented, the celebrant addresses the congregation, saying,

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *these persons* in *their* life in Christ?
People **We will.**

Prayers for the Candidates

The celebrant then says to the congregation,

Let us now pray for *these persons* who *are* to receive the sacrament of new birth.

A person appointed leads the following litany.

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open *their hearts* to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill *them* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach *them* to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send *them* into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring *them* to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The leader concludes,

Grant, O Lord,
that all who are baptized
into the death of Jesus Christ your Son
may live in the power of his resurrection
and look for him to come again in glory;
who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Celebration of Baptism

Thanksgiving over the Water

The celebrant blesses the water, using one of the following forms.

People The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

Celebrant We give you thanks, almighty God and Father, for
by the gift of water you nourish and sustain all
living things.
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Celebrant We give you thanks that through the waters of the
Red Sea, you led your people out of slavery to
freedom in the promised land.
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Celebrant We give you thanks for sending your Son Jesus. For
us he was baptized by John in the river Jordan. For
us he was anointed as Christ by your Holy Spirit.
For us he suffered the baptism of his own death and
resurrection, setting us free from the bondage of sin
and death, and opening to us the joy and freedom
of everlasting life.
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Celebrant We give you thanks for your Holy Spirit who teaches us and leads us into all truth, filling us with his gifts so that we might proclaim the gospel to all nations and serve you as a royal priesthood.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Celebrant We give you thanks for you have called N to new life through the waters of baptism.

Now sanctify this water, that your servants who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin. Anoint them with your Holy Spirit and bring them to new birth in the family of your Church, that they may become inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

We give you praise and honour and worship through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

All **Blessed are you, our strength and song, and our salvation.**

Or the following:

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who are here cleansed from sin and born again, may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The celebrant then says these or similar words.

Let us join with those
who are committing themselves to Christ
and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God,
The Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again
to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
People **I believe in God the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People **I will, with God's help.**

The Baptism

Each candidate is presented by name to the celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidates, saying,

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

The celebrant makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each one (using chrism if desired) saying to each,

I sign you with the cross,
and mark you as Christ's own for ever.

The celebrant, at a place in the full sight of the congregation, prays over the newly baptized, saying,

Heavenly Father,
we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit
you have bestowed upon *these* your *servants*
the forgiveness of sin,
and have raised *them* to the new life of grace.
Sustain *them*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit.
Give *them* an inquiring and discerning heart,
the courage to will and to persevere,
a spirit to know and to love you,
and the gift of joy and wonder
in all your works. **Amen.**

The Giving of the Light

One of the ministers may then give to each of the newly baptized a lighted candle, saying,

Receive the light of Christ,
to show that you have passed from darkness to light.

Then all of the newly baptized have received candles, the people say,

**Let your light so shine before others
that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in heaven.**

Celebrant Let us welcome the newly baptized.
People **We receive you into the household of God.
Confess the faith of Christ crucified,
proclaim his resurrection,
and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

At Confirmation, Reception, or Reaffirmation

The bishop says to the congregation,

Let us now pray for *these persons* who have renewed *their* commitment to Christ.

Silence may be kept.

Then the bishop says,

Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in *these* your *servants* the covenant you made with *them* at *their* baptism. Send *them* forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before *them*; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The bishop lays his hand upon each one and says,

For Confirmation

Strengthen, O Lord, your servant *N* with your Holy Spirit; empower *him/her* for your service; and sustain *him/her* all the days of *his/her* life. **Amen.**

Or this:

Defend, O Lord, your servant *N* with your heavenly grace, that *he/she* may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more, until *he/she* comes to your everlasting kingdom. **Amen.**

