

RITE OF BAPTISM FOR SEVERAL CHILDREN
RECEPTION OF THE CHILDREN

Celebrant: What name have you given your children?
PARENTS: N

Celebrant: What do you ask of God's Church for N?
PARENTS: **BAPTISM**

Celebrant: You have asked to have your children baptised. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training them in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring them up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbour. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?
PARENTS: **WE DO**

Celebrant: Are you ready to help the parents of these children in their duty as Christian parents?
GODPARENTS: **WE ARE**

Celebrant: N ...N..... the Christian community welcomes you with great joy. In its name I claim you for Christ our Saviour by the sign of his cross. I now trace the cross on your forehead, and invite your parents (and godparents) to do the same.

CELEBRATION OF GOD'S WORD

GOSPEL

Celebrant: This is the gospel of the Lord.
ALL: **PRAISE TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

HOMILY

INTERCESSIONS (Prayer of the Faithful):
RESPONSE: LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

INVOCATION OF THE SAINTS

Celebrant: Holy Mary, Mother of God	ALL: PRAY FOR US
St John The Baptist	ALL: PRAY FOR US
Saint Joseph	ALL: PRAY FOR US
Saint Peter & Saint Paul	ALL: PRAY FOR US
(Other patron saints may be added)	
All holy men and women	ALL: PRAY FOR US

PRAYER OF EXORCISM AND ANOINTING BEFORE BAPTISM

Celebrant: Almighty and ever-living God, you sent your only Son into the world to cast out the power of Satan, spirit of evil, to rescue man from the kingdom of darkness, and bring him into the splendour of your kingdom of light. We pray for these children: set them free from original sin, make them a temple of your glory, and send you Holy Spirit to dwell within them. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
ALL: **AMEN**

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

Celebrant: My dear brothers and sisters, God uses the sacrament of water to give his divine life to those who believe in him. Let us turn to him, and ask him to pour his gift of life from this font on these children he has chosen.

BLESSING AND INVOCATION OF GOD OVER BAPTISM WATER

Celebrant: Praise to you, almighty God and Father for you have created water to cleanse and to give life.

ALL: BLESSED BE GOD

Celebrant: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son, for you offered yourself on the cross, that in the blood and water flowing from your side, and through your death and resurrection, the Church might be born.

ALL: BLESSED BE GOD

Celebrant: Praise to you, God the Holy Spirit, for you anointed Christ at his baptism in the waters of the Jordan River, so that we might all be baptised into you.

ALL: BLESSED BE GOD

Celebrant: Come to us Lord, Father of all, and make holy this water which you have created, so that all who are baptised in it may be washed clean of sin and be born to live as your children.

ALL: HEAR US LORD

Celebrant: Make this water holy Lord, so that all who are baptised into Christ's death and resurrection by this water may become more perfectly like your son.

ALL: HEAR US LORD

Celebrant: Lord make holy this water which you have created, so that all those whom you have chosen may be born again by the power of the Holy Spirit and may take their place among your holy people.

ALL: HEAR US LORD

Celebrant: You have called your children N ...N ... to this cleansing water that they may share in the faith of your Church and have eternal life. By the mystery of this consecrated water lead them to a new and spiritual birth. (We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

ALL: AMEN

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

Celebrant: Dear parents and Godparents.

You have come here to present these children for baptism. By water and the Holy Spirit they are to receive the gift of new life from God, who is love.

On you part, you must make it your constant care to bring them up in the practice of the faith. See that the divine life which God gives them is kept safe from the poison of sin, to grow always stronger in their heart.

If your faith makes you ready to accept this responsibility, renew now the vows of your own baptism. Reject sin; profess your faith in Christ Jesus. This is the faith of the Church.

Celebrant: Do reject sin, so as to live in the freedom of God's children?

PARENTS AND GODPARENTS: I DO

Celebrant: Do you reject the glamour of evil, and refuse to be mastered by sin?

PARENTS AND GODPARENTS: I DO

Celebrant: Do you reject Satan, father of sin and prince of darkness?

PARENTS AND GODPARENTS: I DO

Celebrant: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth?

PARENTS AND GODPARENTS: I DO

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

PARENTS AND GODPARENTS: I DO

Celebrant: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

PARENTS AND GODPARENTS: I DO

Celebrant: This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ALL: AMEN

BAPTISM

(The priest now invites the first of the families to the font)

Celebrant: Is it your will that N should be baptised in the faith of the Church, which we have all professed with you?

PARENTS AND GODPARENTS: IT IS

Celebrant: N I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ANOINTING WITH CHRISM

Celebrant: God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and welcomed you into his holy people. He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation. As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet and King, so may you live always as a member of his body, sharing everlasting life.

ALL: AMEN

(Now each child is anointed with the sacred Oil of Chrism, in silence.)

CLOTHING WITH WHITE GARMENT

Celebrant: N ... N You have become a new creation, and have clothed yourself in Christ. See in this white garment, the outward sign of your Christian dignity. With your family and friends to help you by word and example, bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven.

ALL: AMEN

LIGHTED CANDLE

Celebrant: Receive the light of Christ
(*A person from the family lights the child's candle*)

Celebrant: Parents and godparents, this light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. These children of yours have been enlightened by Christ. They are to walk always as children of light. May they keep the flame of faith alive in their heart. When the Lord comes, may they go out to meet him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom.

EPHPHETHA OR PRAYER OVER EARS AND MOUTH

Celebrant: The Lord Jesus made the deaf hear and the dumb speak. May he soon touch your ears to receive his word, and your mouth to proclaim his faith, to the praise and glory of God the Father.

ALL: AMEN

CONCLUSION OF THE RITE

LORD'S PRAYER (*Please stand*)

Celebrant: Dearly beloved, these children has been reborn in baptism. They are now called the children of God, for so indeed, they are. In confirmation they will receive the fullness of God's Spirit. In holy communion they will share the banquet of Christ's sacrifice, calling God their Father in the midst of the Church. In the name of these children, in the Spirit of our common sonship, let us pray together in the words our Lord has given us.

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed by Thy name,

BLESSING

Celebrant: God, the Father, through his Son, the Virgin Mary's child has brought joy to all Christian mothers, as they see the hope of eternal life shine on their children. May he bless the mothers of these children. They now thank God for the gift of their children. May she be one with them in thanking him forever in heaven, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ALL: AMEN

Celebrant: God is the giver of all life, human and divine. May he bless the father of these children. He and his wife will be the first teachers of their children in the ways of faith. May they be also the best of teachers, bearing witness to the faith by what they say and do, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ALL: AMEN

Celebrant: By God's gift, through water and the Holy Spirit, we are reborn to everlasting life. In his goodness may he continue to pour out his blessing upon these sons and daughters of his. May he make them always, wherever they may be, faithful members of his holy people. May he send his peace upon all who are gathered here, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ALL: AMEN

Celebrant: May Almighty God bless you, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

ALL: AMEN

