

A CELEBRATION OF THE BAPTISM OF N

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

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

God our creator we thank you for the wonder of new life and for the mystery of human love. We give thanks for all whose support and skill surround and sustain the beginning of life. As Jesus knew love and discipline within a human family may N grow in strength and wisdom; as Mary knew the joys and pains of motherhood, give N and N your sustaining grace and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

BIBLE READING

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!

PRESENTATION

Parents and godparents, the Church receives N with joy. Today we are trusting God for his/her growth in faith.

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

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

In baptism N begins his/her journey in faith. You speak for him/her today. Will you care for him/her, and help him/her to take his/her place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

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

THE DECISION

The Easter Candle is lit

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.

Parents and godparents, therefore I ask you:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

Parents and Godparents I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

Parents and Godparents I renounce them.

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

Parents and Godparents I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

Parents and Godparents I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

Parents and Godparents I submit to Christ.

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

Parents and Godparents I come to Christ.

SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

N, 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.

N, may almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

All Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

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 him thanks and praise.

We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life. Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land. 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 from the death of sin to newness of life.

Lord of life,

All renew your creation.

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 baptize into his fellowship those who come to him in faith.

Lord of life,

All renew your creation.

Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, *N* may be cleansed from sin and born again. Renewed in your image, may he/she walk by the light of faith and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, now and for ever.

All Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God.

**All 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.**

BAPTISM

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

All Amen.

N, 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 COMMISSION

N, today God has touched you with his love and given you a place among his people. God promises to be with you in joy and in sorrow, to be your guide in life, and to bring you safely to heaven. In baptism God invites you on a life-long journey. Together with all God's people you must explore the way of Jesus and grow in friendship with God, in love for his people, and in serving others. With us you will listen to the word of God and receive the gifts of God.

THE PRAYERS

For N

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of *N*, and for all the joy he/she brings us. Be with him/her on his/her Christian journey so that he/she may come to know our Lord Jesus Christ as his/her Saviour and friend.

All Amen.

For Parents

God our heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of parenthood and for the gift of *N*, so precious in your sight. Grant that *N* and *N* may always remember your love for them and seek your guidance in their work as parents, knowing that you are the one, perfect, heavenly Father.

All Amen.

Direct *N* and *N* with loving kindness, O God; when they are tired, strengthen them; when they are worried, sustain them; when they are bewildered, encourage them; and in all their fears, give them your hope and peace.

All Amen.

For Godparents

Bless, we pray, *N* and *N*, who have made promises today, that they may be given wisdom and strength to live as Christian witnesses. Keep them faithful, loyal, and true, and make them lights in the life of *N*, their godchild.

All Amen.

For Ourselves

All Lord our God, grant us grace to desire you with our whole heart, so that, desiring you, we may seek and find you, and loving you, may hate those sins which separate us from you, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, or ever and ever.

Amen.

BLESSING

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

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.

N, 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.

DISMISSAL

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.