

HOLY BAPTISM

After the Sermon which follows the Gospel, a baptismal hymn is sung. Text in bold type is said by everyone, except where the sponsors are addressed.

There is one body and one Spirit;

there is one hope in God's call to us.

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism

one God and Father of all.

Baptism is the gift of our Lord Jesus Christ. It signifies the cleansing from sin that Jesus' death makes possible and the new life that God gives us through the Holy Spirit.

In baptism, the promises God makes to his people are visibly signed, sealed and acted out for us: we are washed, we die, we rise to new life. We are joined to Christ, and made members of his body, the Church universal.

THE PRESENTATION

I invite the sponsors of *NN* to present him/her for baptism.

We present *NN* to be baptised.

Will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you in bringing him/her for baptism?

I will.

Are you willing to answer on behalf of *NN*?

I am.

By your own prayers and example, by your friendship and love, will you encourage *NN* in the life and faith of the Christian community?

I will, with God's help.

THE DECISION

Before God and this congregation, you must affirm that you turn to Christ and reject all that is evil.

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins

Do you reject selfish living, and all that is false and unjust?

I reject them all.

Do you renounce Satan and all evil?

I renounce all that is evil.

Will you each, by God's grace, strive to live as a disciple of Christ, loving God with your whole heart and your neighbour as yourself, until your life's end?

I will, with God's help.

To the congregation

You have heard NN respond to Christ.

Will you support them in this calling?

We will.

THE BAPTISM

The candidate and sponsors move to the font.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

During the Thanksgiving, the congregation responds

We give you thanks that at the beginning of creation your Holy Spirit moved upon the waters to bring forth light and life. With water you cleanse and replenish the earth, you nourish and sustain all living things.

Thanks be to God

We give you thanks for your Son Jesus Christ; for his baptism by John, for his anointing by the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God

We give you thanks that through the deep waters of death Jesus delivered us from our sins and was raised to new life in triumph.

Thanks be to God

And now we give you thanks that you have called *NW* to new birth in your Church through the waters of baptism.

Pour out your Holy Spirit; sanctify this water that all baptized in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection. May they die to sin, rise to newness of life, and continue forever in Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we give you praise and honour. **Amen**

To the sponsors

I now ask you to affirm as yours the faith of the Church.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in God the Son?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

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

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I 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.**

To the congregation

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith:
we believe in one God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Each candidate is brought to the water

NN, I baptize you

in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

NN, I sign you with the sign of the cross
to show that you are marked
as Christ's own forever.

Live as a disciple of Christ: fight the good fight, finish the race, keep
the faith.

**Confess Christ crucified,
proclaim his resurrection,
look for his coming in glory.**

God has brought you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

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

God has called you into his Church.

**We therefore receive and welcome you
as a member of the body of Christ,
as a child of the one heavenly Father,
and as an inheritor of God's kingdom.**

THE PRAYERS

A prayer for parents and godparents

Heavenly Father, we pray for *NN*, give them the spirit of wisdom and love.

May *NN* grow up to love and reverence you, and their home share in the joy of your eternal kingdom.

We pray for *NN* enable them to share with *NN* what you have revealed to us in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen**

A prayer for all who are baptised into Christ.

**Gracious God, you have brought us from death to life;
we dedicate ourselves to you.
Produce in us the fruit of your Spirit.
Equip us to serve your people
and advance your gospel in the world.
Enable us to live holy and righteous lives,
and to please you in all that we do;
in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.**

**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all evermore. Amen.**