

A liturgy of Baptism of infants

for use within the Eucharist

*All say the words in **bold**. Parents and godparents say the words in CAPITALS. The congregation remain seated.*

Introduction

Blessed be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whose great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

God's Call

God is love. God gives us life. In Christ, God reaches out to us. In baptism God calls us to respond. Do you accept this call?

WE HEAR AND ACCEPT GOD'S CALL. WE ASK FOR BAPTISM.

God calls the Church to reflect Christ's glory, in baptism to declare his new life, in fellowship and mission to share it. Do you accept this call?

We hear and accept God's call.

Turning to Christ

The minister addresses the candidate(s) or, at the baptism of infants, those who are presenting the candidate(s)

The Christian life means turning from evil and turning to Christ.

Do you renounce evil **I RENOUNCE EVIL.**

Do you repent of sin? **I REPENT OF SIN**

Do you turn to Christ? **I TURN TO CHRIST**

Will you follow Christ? **I WILL FOLLOW CHRIST**

Profession of Faith

The minister addresses the whole congregation

Do you believe in God the Father, who made the world?

We believe.

Do you believe in God the Son, who redeemed humanity?

We believe.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to God's people?

We believe.

The minister addresses those presenting the candidate(s)

This is the faith of the Church.

**THIS IS OUR FAITH, WE BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, FATHER,
SON AND HOLY SPIRIT**

Amen.

Commitment to Christian Living

At the baptism of infants the minister addresses those who are presenting the candidate(s)

NN., as those who will love and care for N., will you continue in the Apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers?

WITH THE HELP OF GOD WE WILL

The minister then continues

Will you proclaim the good news by word and deed, serving Christ in all people?

WITH THE HELP OF GOD WE WILL

Will you work for justice and peace, honouring God in all Creation?

WITH THE HELP OF GOD WE WILL

The minister addresses the whole congregation

This is the task of the Church.

This is our task: to live and work for the kingdom of God.

The Baptismal Prayer

Water is poured into the Font. The minister says

Holy God, well-spring of life, in your love and justice, you use the gift of water to declare your saving power.

In the beginning your Spirit moved over the face of the waters. By the gentle dew, the steady rain, you nourish and give increase to all that grows; you make the desert a watered garden. You command the wildness of the waves; when the storm rages you calm our fear; in the stillness you lead us to a deeper faith.

In the life-giving rivers and the rainbow Israel discerned your mercy. You divided the Red Sea to let them pass from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land.

In the waters of Jordan penitents found forgiveness in the baptism of John. There, Jesus your beloved child was anointed with the Holy Spirit, that he might bring us to the glorious liberty of the children of God.

Send upon this water and upon N.your holy, life-giving Spirit.

Bring those who are baptised in this water with Christ through the waters of death, to be one with him in his resurrection.

Sustain your people by your Spirit to be hope and strength to the world. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Baptism

The minister immerses the candidate in the water, or pours the water upon the candidate, saying

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

Anointing and Laying on of hands

The minister anoints the candidate upon the forehead, making the sign of the Cross with the Oil of Chrism, and saying

N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

The minister lays hands on the candidate's head, saying

May the Spirit of God be in you, wisdom and understanding keep you, the power of God encircle you, and God's truth lead you into freedom. **Amen.**

The giving of the light

A lighted candle is given as the minister says

N., the light of Christ scatter the darkness from your heart and mind.

Christ go before you to guide your steps. Christ be within you to kindle your vision. Christ shine from you to give joy to the world.

Welcome

The minister addresses the candidate(s)

N., God has received you by baptism into the Church.

We welcome you. We will care for you. We will share our faith with you.

The Minister says a prayer for the baptised and the service continues with the Intercessions, the Confession and the Peace