



The Sacrament of Baptism

Reception of the Child

The child and parents are welcomed into the Church.

The celebrant addresses the parents:

Celebrant: What name have you given your child?

Parents: (State the name of the child) N.

Celebrant: What do you ask of God's Church for N.?

Parents: Baptism

Celebrant: You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him/her in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him/her 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.

The celebrant then turns to the godparents and addresses them:

Celebrant: Are you godparents ready to help these parents in their duty as Christian parents?

Godparents: We are.

Celebrant: 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.

Liturgy of the Word of God

Everyone is seated to listen to the Word of God.

First Reading

Reader: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.



Responsorial Psalm

Reader: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

All: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Reader: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.

All: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Reader: He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff;

with these you give me comfort.

All: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Reader: You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.

In the Lord's house shall I dwell forever and ever.

All: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Gospel Acclamation

All (Stand): Alleluia, alleluia!

during Lent: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, King of eternal Glory!

**I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
anyone who follows me will have the light of life.**

Alleluia!

during Lent: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, King of eternal Glory!

Gospel

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Celebrant: Jesus came up and spoke to his disciples. He said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations; baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes to the end of time".

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.



Intercessions

Celebrant: My dear brothers and sisters,
let us ask our Lord Jesus Christ to look lovingly
on this child who is to be baptized, on his/her parents
and godparents, and on all the baptized.

By the mystery of your death and resurrection, bathe this child in light,
give him/her new life of baptism and welcome him/her into your holy
Church. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Celebrant: Through baptism and confirmation, make him/her your faithful
follower and a witness to your gospel. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Celebrant: Lead him/her by a holy life to the joys of God's kingdom. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Celebrant: Make the lives of his/her parents and godparents examples of faith to
inspire this child. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Celebrant: Keep his/her family always in your love. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Celebrant: Renew the grace of our baptism in each one of us. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, graciously hear us.

Invocation of the Saints

Celebrant: Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Saint John the Baptist,
Saint Joseph,
Saint Peter and Saint Paul,
Saint Patrick,
Saint Brigid,
Saint Columba
Saint Oliver Plunkett,
All holy men and women,

**All: pray for us.
pray for us.**



Prayer of Exorcism & Anointing

Prayer of Exorcism

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 deliver us from the kingdom of darkness, and bring us into the splendour of your kingdom of light. We pray for this child: set him/her free from original sin, make him/her a temple of your glory, and send your Holy Spirit to dwell within him/her. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Anointing before Baptism

Celebrant: We anoint you with the oil of salvation in the name of Christ our Saviour; may he strengthen you with his power, who lives and reigns forever and ever.

All: Amen.

The celebrant anoints the child on the chest with the Oil of Catechumens

Celebration of the Sacrament

Celebrant: My dear brothers and sisters, we now ask God to give this child new life in abundance through water and the Holy Spirit.

Blessing & Invocation of God over Baptismal Water

Celebrant: Praise to you, almighty God and Father, for you have created water to cleanse and 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, so that we might all be baptized in you.

All: Blessed be God



If the water is already blessed, the celebrant continues from *
otherwise, the celebrant continues:

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

All: Hear us, Lord.

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

All: Hear us, Lord.

The celebrant touches the water with his right hand and continues:

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.

* when the water is blessed, the celebrant continues:

Celebrant: You have called your child to this cleansing water and new birth,
that by sharing the faith of your Church he/she may have eternal life.
Bless this water in which he/she will be baptized.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Renunciation of Sin & Profession of Faith

Celebrant: Dear Parents and Godparents:
You have come here to present this child for baptism.
By water and the Holy Spirit he/she is to receive the gift of new life
from God, who is love.

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

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.

This is the faith in which this child is about to be baptized:



Celebrant: Do you reject Satan? **Parents and Godparents: I do.**
And all his works? **I do.**
And all his empty promises? **I do.**
Do you believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth? **I do.**
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? **I do.**
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 life everlasting? **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 celebrant invites the parents and godparents to bring the child to the font.
There he asks them the following question:*

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

**Parents
& Godparents: It is.**

*He then baptises the child, pouring water over the child's head three times,
whilst saying:*

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

Ceremonies after Baptism



The effects of Baptism are expressed in four symbolic actions:

Anointing with Oil of Chrism

Celebrant: The God of power and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin and brought you to new life through water and the Holy Spirit. He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation, so that, united with his people, you may remain forever a member of Christ who is Priest, Prophet, and King.

All: Amen.

The celebrant anoints the child on the forehead with the sacred Oil of Chrism.

Clothing with the White Garment

The white garment is put on the child:

Celebrant: *N.*, you have become a new creation, and have clothed yourselves 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

The candle is lit from the Easter Candle and given to the father or godparent:

Celebrant: Parents and godparents, this light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. This child of yours has been enlightened by Christ. He/She is to walk always as children of the light. May he/she keep the flame of the faith alive in their hearts. When the Lord comes, may he/she go out to meet him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom.

Ephphetha

The priest touches the ears and mouth of the child saying:

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.

Concluding Rite



The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: Brothers and sisters, this child has been reborn in baptism.
He/She is now called a child of God, for so indeed he/she is.

In Confirmation he/she will receive the fullness of God's Spirit.
In Holy Communion he/she will share the banquet of Christ's sacrifice,
calling God their Father in the midst of the Church.

In his/her name, in the Spirit of adopted children, let us pray together
in the words our Lord has given us:

**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.**

Final Blessing

Celebrant: May God the almighty Father, who filled the world with joy by giving
us his only Son, bless this newly-baptized child.
May he/she grow to be more fully like Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: May almighty God, who gives life on earth and in heaven,
bless the parents of this child.

They thank God now for the gift he has given them.
May they always show that gratitude in action by loving and caring
for their child.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: May almighty God, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy
Spirit, generously bless all of us who are his faithful children. May we
live as his people, and may he bless all here present with his peace.

All: Amen.

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

All: Amen.

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

English Text: *The Rite of Baptism for Children* © 1969,
International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.
Scripture excerpts: *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997,
International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

