



The Church of the Ascension
 Rockville Centre, New York

Holy Baptism of a Child

Presentation and Examination of the Candidate

The Celebrant says,

Beloved in the Lord, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God to witness the Sacrament of Holy Baptism by which this person is to be made a member of Christ's Body, the Church. By the working of this holy sacrament, ordained by Christ himself, this person will die to sin and be raised to newness of life, receiving the fullness of God's grace that he may faithfully serve him all the days of his life.

Celebrant The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Sponsors: ***I present NN to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.***

When the candidate has been presented, the Celebrant asks the Parents and Sponsors,

Celebrant Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Sponsors: ***I will, with God's help.***

Celebrant Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Sponsors: ***I will, with God's help.***

The Celebrant then asks the following questions of the parents and sponsors who speak on the behalf of the child.

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer ***I renounce them.***

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer ***I renounce them.***

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer ***I renounce them all.***

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Saviour?

Answer ***I do.***

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer ***I do.***

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord and Master?

Answer ***I do.***

After all have been presented, the Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying:

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *this person* in his/her life in Christ?
People ***We will.***

The Baptismal Covenant

All stand. The Celebrant then says these or similar words:

Dearly beloved, let us join with N, who is now committing *himself/herself* to Christ Jesus and here renew our own baptismal covenant.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?
People ***I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;***

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
People ***I believe in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, dead, and buried:
He descended into hell;
The third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven.
And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.***

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Ghost?
People ***I believe in God the Holy Ghost;
The holy Catholic Church;
The Communion of Saints;
The Forgiveness of Sins;
The Resurrection of the body,
And the Life everlasting.***

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, and in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
People ***I will, with God's help.***

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
People ***I will, with God's help.***

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People ***I will, with God's help.***

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons loving your neighbor as yourself?
People ***I will, with God's help.***

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being?
People ***I will, with God's help.***

The candidates proceed to the baptismal font.

Prayers for the Candidates

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader Open *their* hearts to thy grace and truth.

People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader Fill *them* with thy holy and life-giving Spirit.

People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader Keep *them* in the faith and communion of thy holy Church.

People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader Teach *them* to love others in the power of the Holy Ghost.

People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader Send *them* into the world in faithful witness to thine abounding love.

People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory,

People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

The Celebrant continues:

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. *Amen.*

All remain standing.

Thanksgiving over the Water

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And with thy spirit.*

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

The Celebrant continues,

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation; through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise; in it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life

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 bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who are here cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Baptism

The Celebrant may ask the name of the person to be baptized and says, as water is poured over.

N, I baptize thee in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *these* your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised *them* to a new life of grace. Sustain *them*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give *them*

an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen.*

And making the sign of the Cross on the person's head [using Chrism if desired], the Celebrant says

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

Giving of the Light

A candle may be lighted from the Paschal Candle and given, the Celebrant saying,

Receive the light of Christ, so that when the bridegroom comes, you may go forth with all the saints to meet him.

People **Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.**

Celebrant Let us welcome the newly baptized.

People **We receive you into the household of God: Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray in the words our saviour Christ taught us.

People **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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Celebrant All praise and thanks to you, most merciful Father, for adopting us as your own children, for incorporating us into your holy Church, and for making us worthy to share in the inheritance of the saints in light; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

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