

HOLY BAPTISM

THE EXHORTATION

Dearly beloved, Scripture teaches that we were all dead in our sins and trespasses, but by grace we may be saved through faith. Our Savior Jesus Christ said, "Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God"; and he commissioned the Church to "make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Here we ask our heavenly Father that *these Candidates*, being baptized with water, may be filled with the Holy Spirit, born again, and received into the Church as *living members* of Christ's body. Therefore, I urge you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his abundant mercy he will grant to *these Candidates* that which by nature *they* cannot have. ^[1]_{SEP}

THE PRESENTATION

Celebrant The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

**Parents/
Godparents** I present N.N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant Today, on behalf of *this child*, you shall make vows to renounce the devil and all his works, to trust God wholeheartedly, and to serve him faithfully. It is your task to see that *this child is* taught, as soon as *he is* able to learn, the meaning of all these vows, and of the Faith that you will profess as revealed in the Holy Scriptures. *He* must come to put *his* faith in Jesus Christ, and learn the Creeds, the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, and all other things that a Christian ought to know, believe, and do for the welfare of *his soul*. When *he has* embraced all these, *he is* to come to the Bishop to be confirmed, that *he* may publicly claim the Faith for *his* own and be further strengthened by the Holy Spirit to serve Christ and his kingdom.

Celebrant Are you willing and ready to undertake this?

**Parents/
Godparents** I am, the Lord being my helper.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Celebrant Do you renounce the devil and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you renounce the empty promises and deadly deceits of this world that corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you renounce the sinful desires of the flesh that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Celebrant Almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness and evil, and lead you into the light and obedience of the kingdom of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant Do you turn to Jesus Christ and confess him as your Lord and Savior?

Answer I do.

Celebrant Do you joyfully receive the Christian Faith, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

Answer I do.

Celebrant Will you obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in them all the days of your life?

Answer I will, the Lord being my helper.

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *these persons* in *their* life in Christ?

Congregation We will.

Celebrant Let us join with *these Candidates* to proclaim our faith in the words of the ancient baptismal confession, the Apostles' Creed.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

Celebrant Do you believe and trust in Jesus Christ?

People I do. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

People I do. 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. Amen.

LITANY FOR THE CANDIDATES

Leader Let us now pray for *these Candidates* who *are* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism. That *all these Candidates* may continue in the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers.

People We beseech you to hear us, Good Lord.

Leader That *they* may walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which *they have* been called, ever growing in faith and all heavenly virtues.

People We beseech you to hear us, Good Lord.

Leader That *they* may persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever *they fall* into sin, repent and return to the Lord.

People We beseech you to hear us, Good Lord.

Leader That *they* may proclaim by word and deed the Good News of God in Christ Jesus to a lost and broken world.

People We beseech you to hear us, Good Lord.

Leader That as *living members* of the Body of Christ, *they* may grow up in every way into him who is the head.

People We beseech you to hear us, Good Lord.

Leader That, looking to Jesus, *they* may run with endurance the race set before *them*, and at the last receive the unfading crown of glory.

People We beseech you to hear us, Good Lord.

PRAYER FOR THE CANDIDATES

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting Father, in your great mercy you saved Noah and his family in the Ark from the destruction of the flood, prefiguring the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Look mercifully upon *these* your *servants*. Wash and sanctify *them* through your Holy Spirit, that *they* may be delivered from destruction and received into the Ark of Christ's Church; and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, *they* may pass through the turbulent floods of this troublesome world and come into the land of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, pours the water for Baptism.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with your spirit.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant 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 in the River Jordan when the Holy Spirit descended upon him as a dove. 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 made regenerate 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.

Celebrant Now, Father, sanctify this water by the power of your Holy Spirit. May all who are baptized here be cleansed from sin, be born again, and continue for ever faithful 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

Celebrant Name this *Candidate/Child*.

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

All **Amen.**

Celebrant *N.*, receive the sign of the Cross as a token of your new life in Christ, in which you shall not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified, to fight bravely under his banner against the world, the flesh, and the devil, and to continue as his faithful soldier and servant to the end of your days.

All **Amen.**

Celebrant Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon *these* your *servants* the forgiveness of sin, received *them* as your own *children* by adoption, made *them* *members* of your holy Church, and raised *them* to the new life of grace. Sustain *them*, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit, that *they* may enjoy everlasting salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Celebrant Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All **We receive you into the fellowship of the Church. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in the royal priesthood of all his people.**

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with your spirit.**