

**Bold print is said altogether** . \* Normal print is for the Minister's words. \* *Italic words are instructions.*

### ***The Preparation***

*The Minister says*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all **and also with you.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us that to enter the kingdom of heaven we must be born again of water and the Spirit, and has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new birth. Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean. Here we are clothed with Christ, dying to sin that we may live his risen life. As children of God, we have a new dignity and God calls us to fullness of life.

*The Minister says the Opening Prayer*

Heavenly Father,  
by the power of your Holy Spirit  
you give to your faithful people  
new life in the water of baptism.  
Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit,  
that we who are born again may serve you in faith and love,  
and grow into the full stature of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns  
with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The Sunday Gospel, or some other follows. It ends:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Here the Reading and the meaning of Baptism may be explained, or else The Commission may be used later.*

### ***Presentation of the Candidates***

*The Minister addresses the whole congregation*

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome *these children* and uphold *them* in *their* new life in Christ?

*(All answer)* **With the help of God, we will.**

*The Minister then says to the parents and godparents*

Parents and godparents, the Church receives *these children* with joy. Today we are trusting God for *their* growth in faith. Will you pray for *them*, draw *them* by your example into the community of faith and walk with *them* in the way of Christ?

*(God)parents* **With the help of God, we will.**

In baptism *these children* begin their journey in faith. You speak for *them* today. Will you care for *them*, and help *them* to take *their* place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

*(God)parents* **With the help of God, we will.**

### ***The Decision***

*The Minister addresses the candidates through their parents, godparents and sponsors*

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

*Minister* Do you turn to Christ?

*(God)parents* **I turn to Christ.**

*Minister* Do you repent of your sins?

*(God)parents* **I repent of my sins.**

*Minister* Do you renounce evil?

*(God)parents* **I renounce evil.**

### ***Signing with the Cross***

*The Minister makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate, saying*

Christ claims you for his own.  
Receive the sign of his cross.

*When all are signed he says*

Do not be ashamed to confess  
the faith of Christ crucified.

**Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ  
against sin, the world and the devil,  
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory,  
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

**Amen.**

### ***Prayer over the Water***

*All gather at the baptismal font.*

Praise God who made heaven and earth,  
**who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise  
for your gift of water in creation;  
for your Spirit, sweeping over the waters,  
bringing light and life;  
for your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,  
baptized in the river Jordan.

We bless you for your new creation,  
brought to birth by water and the Spirit,  
and for your grace bestowed upon us your children,  
washing away our sins.

May your holy and life-giving Spirit  
move upon these waters.

Restore through them the beauty of your creation,  
and bring those who are baptized  
to new birth in the family of your Church.

Drown sin in the waters of judgement,  
anoint your children with power from on high,  
and make them one with Christ  
in the freedom of your kingdom.  
For all might, majesty, dominion and power are yours,  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### ***Profession of faith***

*The Minister says*

Let us affirm, together with these who are being baptized,  
our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

### ***Baptism***

*The Minister pours water on each infant saying*

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

**Amen.**

*The Minister says*

May God, who has received you by baptism into his  
Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within  
the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be  
renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance  
of the saints in glory.

**Amen.**

### ***The Welcome and Greeting of Peace***

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:  
*N and N*, by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;  
we are children of the same heavenly Father;  
we welcome you.**

We are all one in Christ Jesus.  
We belong to him through faith,  
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

### ***The Prayers***

*The Commission may be read before the prayers*

Faithful and loving God,  
bless those who care for *these children*  
and grant them your gifts of love, wisdom and faith.  
Pour upon them your healing and reconciling love,  
and protect their home from all evil.  
Fill them with the light of your presence  
and establish them in the joy of your kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

God of grace and life,  
in your love you have given us  
a place among your people;  
keep us faithful to our baptism,  
and prepare us for that glorious day  
when the whole creation will be made perfect  
in your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

Let us pray with confidence  
as our Saviour has taught us

**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,**

**the power and the glory,**

**for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

### ***Giving of a Lighted Candle***

*A lighted candle is given to the newly baptized..*

*When all have received a candle the Minister says*  
God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness  
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;  
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world**

**to the glory of God the Father.**

### ***The Dismissal***

*The Minister says*

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

*See Holy Baptism, Supplementary Card for suitable  
Gospels and for other supporting texts*

*This Service fall within the provisions of Common  
Worship, Holy Baptism © The Archbishops' Council.*