

# Baptism into Christ



*Becoming a Child  
of God  
Reception into  
the Church*

**for older children**  
(children of a catechetical age)

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1. INTRODUCTION &  
CALL TO PRAYER
2. RECEIVING THE CANDIDATE

**Priest:**

What do you want to become?

**Candidate:**

**A Christian.**

**Priest:**

Why do you want to become a Christian?

**Candidate:**

**Because I believe in Christ.**

**Priest:**

What do you gain by believing in Christ?

**Candidate:**

**Eternal life.**

3. AFFIRMATION BY PARENTS AND  
GODPARENTS

**Priest:** Parents and Godparents, **these children** have asked to be baptised. Do you consent to their request?

**Parents and Godparents:** **We do.**

**Priest:** Will you support **them** in living as a disciple of Jesus, a child of God, and a temple of the Holy Spirit, with the example of your own faith and love?

**Parents and Godparents:** **We will.**

4. THE SIGNING OF THE CANDIDATE  
WITH THE CROSS

**Priest:** Christ has called you to be his friend. Always remember Him and be faithful to Him. Therefore, I mark your forehead with the Sign of the Cross. It is the Sign of Christians, let it remind you always of Christ, and how much He loves you.

And I also invite you, parents and godparents, since you also belong to Christ, to sign them with the Sign of the Cross.

*The sign of the cross is made over the whole person:*

*I place you entirely under the sign of Christ's cross in the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit: live with Jesus now and for ever.*

**Candidate:** Amen.

## 5. LITURGY OF THE WORD

## 6. INTERCESSIONS

*Let us pray for these children, your son / daughter, your brother / sister / friend, as they draw nearer to God.*

That they may steadily increase their desire to live with Jesus, let us pray to the Lord:

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

That by belonging to the Church they may find true happiness, let us pray to the Lord:

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

That they may be preserved from the temptation of discouragement and fear, let us pray to the Lord:

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

That they may rejoice in the happiness of receiving the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and the Eucharist, let us pray to the Lord: **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

## 7. LITANY OF SAINTS

Holy Mary, mother of God:	<i>pray for us</i>
Saint Joseph:	<i>pray for us</i>
Saint John the Baptist:	<i>pray for us</i>
Saint Michael:	<i>pray for us</i>
Saint Peter and Saint Paul,	<i>pray for us</i>
Saint Mary Magdalene,	<i>pray for us</i>
Saint Mary of the Cross,	<i>pray for us</i>
...	<i>pray for us</i>
All you holy men and women:	<i>pray for us</i>

## 8. THE ANOINTING WITH THE OIL OF CATECHUMENS

**Priest:** Father, free these young men and women from anything that could keep them apart from you, and help them always to walk in your light.

**Candidate:**

**Heavenly Father, I want to walk always with Jesus. Help me by your Holy Spirit to follow Him faithfully.**

**Priest:** And Father, if in the future they should stumble, and fail to please you, help them with the power of your hand, that they may rise again and continue on their journey, with our Lord Jesus Christ, home to you.

**Candidate:**

**Father, give me your strength.**

**Priest:** I 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.

**Candidate:** Amen.

# THE CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM

## 9. INVITATION TO PRAYER

**Priest:** Brothers and Sisters, these children with the approval of their parents, have asked to be baptised. Let us now call upon the Father to number them among His adopted children in Christ.

*(Silent prayer)*

## 10. PRAYER OVER THE WATER

**Priest:**

Come to us, Lord, Father of all, and make holy this water which you have created, so that all who are baptised in it may be

washed clean of sin, and be born again to live as your children.

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

Father, you have called your children to this cleansing water, that they may share in the faith of your Church and have eternal life. By the mystery of this consecrated water, lead them to a new and spiritual birth.

**All:** Amen.

## 11. THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

**Priest:** You have spent some time in preparation, and now ask to be baptised or received into the Church. Your parents have agreed to your request; your family, Godparents and friends are supporting you; and all who are present today, promise you the example of their own faith, and their loving support. Therefore, before you are baptised, reject Satan and profess your faith here in the presence of God's Church.

### The Renunciation of Sin

**Priest:** Do you reject sin so as to live in the freedom of God's children?

**Candidate:** I do

**Priest:** Do you reject the glamour of evil, and refuse to be mastered by sin?

**Candidate:** I do

**Priest:** Do you reject Satan, the father of sin and prince of darkness?

**Candidate:** I do.

### Profession of Faith

**Priest:** Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

**Candidate:** I do.

**Priest:** 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?

**Candidate:** I do.

**Priest:** 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?

**Candidate:** I do.

**Priest:** This is our faith, the ancient faith of the Church, and we are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

**Candidates to be received:** I believe and profess all that the holy Catholic Church believes, teaches, and proclaims to be revealed by God.

### Act of Reception.

**Priest:** The Lord receives you into the Catholic Church. His loving kindness has led you here, so that in the unity of the Holy Spirit you may have full communion with us in the faith that you have professed in the presence of his family.

### Sign of Welcome

## 12. THE BAPTISM

**Priest:** *Name*, I baptise you, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

### 13. THE EXPLANATORY RITES

#### ☞ The Anointing with the Oil of Chrism

**Priest:** 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.

**Candidate:** Amen.

#### ☞ The Clothing in the Baptismal Robe

**Priest:** You have become a new creation, and have clothed yourself 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.

#### ☞ The Presentation of the Candle

**Priest:** I invite the godparents, to come forward to receive this candle and present it to these new Christians.

**Priest:** You have been enlightened by Christ. Walk always as a child of the light. Keep the flame of faith alive in your heart. When the Lord comes, may you go out to meet Him with all the saints in the Heavenly Kingdom.

**Candidate:** Amen

### 14. LORD'S PRAYER

Dearly beloved, these children have been reborn in baptism. They are now called children of God, for so indeed they are... Let us pray together in the words our Lord has given 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. Amen.**

### 15. THE BLESSING

**Priest:** My brothers and Sisters, we commend you to the mercy and grace of God, our almighty Father, of His only Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

May He protect your paths so that walking in the light of faith, you may come to the good things promised us.

May, almighty God, the Father, + and the Son and the Holy Spirit, bless you.

**All:** Amen...

