

H O L Y B A P T I S M
with
C O N F I R M A T I O N , R E C E P T I O N ,
and
R E A F F I R M A T I O N

This rite is used whenever Baptisms and Confirmations occur together. The Bishop is the Celebrant. Except at the Easter Vigil, the rite follows the Sermon. This form may be used at the Easter Vigil in accordance with the rubrics and Additional Directions for that service.

The Candidates with their Sponsors stand before the Bishop. The Bishop customarily sits in a chair in front of the Altar Table.

T H E P R E S E N T A T I O N

The Bishop says

The Candidate(s) for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

A D U L T S A N D O L D E R C H I L D R E N

The Candidates who are able to answer for themselves are presented individually by their Sponsors, using full names as follows

I present *N.N.* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Bishop asks Candidates the following

Bishop Have you already been baptized?

Candidate No.

Bishop Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate I do.

INFANTS AND YOUNGER CHILDREN

Then the Candidates who are unable to answer for themselves are presented individually by their Godparents and Sponsoring Parents, using full names, as follows

I present *N.N.* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When the following promises are made by Godparents and Sponsoring Parents of infants or young children, the Bishop addresses them

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 hath* 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 Ghost to serve Christ and his kingdom.

Are you willing and ready to undertake this?

Godparents and Sponsoring Parents

I am, the Lord being my helper.

ADULTS SEEKING THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

The Bishop says

The candidate(s) for *Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation* will now be presented.

The Candidate(s) and Presenters stand facing the Bishop as their Presenters say

Presenters **Reverend Father in God, we present *these persons* to receive the laying on of hands.**

Bishop *Have they been adequately prepared?*

Presenters *They have.*

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Bishop examines all the Candidates, together with any Godparents and Sponsoring Parents, saying

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

Answer **I renounce them.**

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

Answer **I renounce them.**

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

Answer **I renounce them.**

The Bishop then prays over the Baptismal Candidate(s) and may anoint each Candidate with the Oil of Exorcism, saying

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

The Bishop continues

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

Answer **I do.**

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

Answer **I do.**

Question 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.**

The Bishop addresses the Congregation, saying

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

We will.

The Bishop then says

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

Bishop Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

People **I do.**

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

Bishop Do you believe and trust in Jesus Christ?

People **I do.**

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.

Bishop Do you believe and trust in the Holy Ghost?

People I do.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE CANDIDATES FOR HOLY BAPTISM

The Bishop now prays for the baptismal Candidates as follows

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting Father, who of thy great mercy didst save Noah and his family in the ark from perishing by water, thereby prefiguring the Sacrament of Holy Baptism; We beseech thee, for thine infinite mercies, that thou wilt mercifully look upon *these* thy *servants*. Wash *them* and sanctify *them* with the Holy Ghost, that *they*, being delivered from thy wrath, may be received into the Ark of Christ's Church; and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in charity, may so pass the waves of this troublesome world, that finally *they* may come to the land of everlasting life, there to reign with thee world without end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

If there is a procession to the baptismal font, a psalm, anthem, or hymn may be sung.

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

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Bishop Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Bishop Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

The Bishop continues

We thank thee, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation; through it thou didst lead the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise, and in it thy Son Jesus received the baptism of John in the River Jordan when the Holy Spirit descended upon him as a dove.

We thank thee, 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 Ghost. Therefore in joyful obedience to thy 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 Ghost.

Here the Bishop touches the water and says

Now, Father, sanctify this water by the power of thy Holy Spirit, and grant that 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 whom, with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

The Bishop may say to the Sponsors,

Name this *Candidate/Child*.

Then the Bishop immerses the Candidate or pours water upon the Candidate three times, saying

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

The Bishop makes the sign of the Cross upon the forehead of the newly baptized (and may use the Oil of Chrism to do so), saying

N., receive the sign of the Cross as a token of thy new life in Christ, in which thou shalt 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 Christ's faithful soldier and servant unto thy life's end. Amen.

or this

N., thou art sealed by the Holy Ghost in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. Amen.

If garments or candles are presented, they are given here.

When all have been baptized and signed the Bishop says

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

The Bishop continues

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Bishop and People

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.

THE CONFIRMATIONS, RECEPTIONS AND REAFFIRMATIONS

The Bishop continues

Let us now pray for those who have made an adult profession of Faith and who seek the laying on of hands.

Almighty and everliving God, we beseech thee to strengthen *these* thy *servants* for witness and ministry through the power of the Holy Ghost, and daily increase in *them* thy manifold virtues of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and godly strength, the spirit of knowledge and true godliness, and the spirit of thy holy fear, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FOR CONFIRMATION

Each confirmand kneels in front of the Bishop. The Bishop, then laying his hands upon the person's head, prays

Defend, O Lord, this thy servant *N.* with thy heavenly grace, that *he* may continue thine for ever, and daily increase in thy Holy Spirit more and more, until *he* comes unto the fullness of thy everlasting kingdom.

People **Amen.**

Or this

Strengthen, O Lord, with thy Holy Spirit, thy servant *N.*; empower *him* for thy service; and sustain *him* all the days of his life.

People Amen.

FOR RECEPTION

Those having made adult professions of faith in other Christian traditions are Received with the laying on of hands as follows.

Strengthen, O Lord, with thy Holy Spirit, thy servant *N.*, whom we recognize as a member of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, and receive into the fellowship of this Communion. Empower *him* for thy service, and sustain *him* all the days of *his* life.

People Amen.

FOR REAFFIRMATION

The Bishop may also accept with the laying on of hands the Reaffirmation of vows by a person who has previously been Confirmed or Received in this Church.

N., the Holy Ghost, who hath begun a good work in thee, direct and empower thee by his grace, that thou mayest continue in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ all the days of thy life.

People Amen.

The Bishop may make the sign of the Cross with the Oil of Chrism on the forehead of any receiving the laying on of hands, and may say

N., I sign thee with the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

CONCLUDING PRAYER AFTER THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

The Bishop then says

Almighty and everliving God, let thy fatherly hand ever be over *these thy servants*; let thy Holy Spirit ever be with *them*; and so lead *them* in the knowledge and obedience of thy Word, that *they* may faithfully serve thee in this life, and joyfully dwell with thee in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

At a liturgy other than the Easter Vigil, the Exchange of the Peace and Offertory follow.

At the conclusion of the Liturgy, the following blessing may be used.

Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage, and fight the good fight of faith, that you may finish your course with joy; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

ADDITIONAL DIRECTIONS

It is particularly appropriate that parents, godparents, or others of godly influence be Presenters at Confirmation.

The Prayers of the People are not used in this Liturgy. However, the Bishop may invite intercessions at an appropriate time.

At the signing, the word 'manfully' may be substituted for the word 'bravely'.

After the Baptism and signing, and prior to the giving of the candle (if there be one), a white garment may be placed upon the newly baptized. The Bishop says, "Receive this white garment as a token of the righteousness given you by God's grace in this Sacrament of Baptism, and as a sign that you should always give yourself to holy living for the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

The Deacon or Bishop may light a candle from the Paschal Candle and give it to the newly baptized, saying, "*N.*, receive the light of our Lord Jesus Christ who said: 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'"

Those who have been Received with the laying on of hands according to this liturgy are considered to have been Confirmed in this Church.