



The Parish Eucharist with Holy Baptism

Pastoral Introduction

Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives, the first step in response to God's love. For all involved it is a joyful moment when we rejoice in what God has done for us in Christ, and in response we make serious promises and affirm our Christian faith. The wider community of the local church and friends welcome the new Christian, promising support and prayer for the future. Hearing and doing these things provides an opportunity to remember our own baptism and reflect on the progress made on that journey, which is now to be shared with this new member of the Church.

The service paints vivid pictures of what happens on the Christian journey. There is the sign of the cross, the badge of faith in the Christian Way, which reminds us of Christ's death for us. Our 'drowning' in the water of baptism, where we believe we die to sin and are raised to new life, unites us to Christ's dying and rising. Water is also a sign of new life, as we are born again by water and the Spirit. This reminds us of Jesus' baptism. There is the anointing with oil: first, at the signing of the cross. This draws on the ancient use of oil in preparing an athlete's body for a contest, and is a sign of preparation for living a Christian life. Oil has also traditionally been used in the anointing of kings, and the second anointing uses the oil of chrism (used again at confirmation) and is a sign that the new Christian belongs to the community of Christ, the King of kings. As a sign of the new life that Christ offers, there is a lighted candle, a picture of the light of Christ conquering the darkness of evil. Everyone who is baptised is called to walk in that light for the rest of their lives.

As you pray for the candidates, picture them with yourself and the whole Church throughout the ages, journeying together into the fullness of God's love.

The Gathering

Please stand to sing the Entrance Hymn (hymn numbers can be found in The Messenger)

The Greeting

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Introduction

The priest welcomes the congregation and introduces the service using these or other words:

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.

Presentation of the Candidates

The priest 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 / candidates
and uphold them in their new life in Christ?

All With the help of God, we will.

The priest addresses the parents and godparents (P&G)

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 life?

P&G 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?

P&G With the help of God, we will.

Please stand to sing the Gloria

Gloria in Excelsis (omitted in Advent and Lent)

All **Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect

Please remain standing. The priest introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'let us pray'. The Collect is said and all respond

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

Please sit for the reading.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Hymn (see *The Messenger*)

Gospel Reading

The Gospel is read from the centre of the Nave. Please turn to face it. The choir or a cantor leads the acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

All Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

When the Gospel is announced the priest says

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

All Glory to you O Lord

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you O Christ

Sermon

The Liturgy of Baptism

The Decision

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:

Do you turn to Christ?

P&G I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

P&G I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

P&G I renounce evil.

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

All 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.

All Amen.

Prayer over the Water

The priest pours water into the font and says:

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

All who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.
Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation.
Through water you led the children of Israel from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land.
In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us from the death of sin to newness of 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 baptise into his fellowship those who come to him in faith.

Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, they may be cleansed from sin and born again.
Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, now and for ever.

All Amen.

Profession of Faith

Please stand. The priest addresses the congregation

Let us affirm, together with those 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 by whom we exist?

All 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?

All 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?

All I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church

All This is our faith.

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

Baptism

The priest pours water on each candidate, saying

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

All Amen.

*Those who have been baptised are anointed with a cross with the oil of
chrism, with the words*

The oil of chrism, the seal of the Spirit.

When all have been anointed the priest 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.

All Amen.

Intercessions

The Welcome and Peace

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

**All 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.

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

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Altar

Taking of the Bread and Wine

*We sing the **Offertory Hymn** (for number, see the Messenger). A collection is taken.*

The gifts of the people are gathered and presented. The altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it. The priest takes the bread and wine and says the following prayers.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Eucharistic Prayer

Please stand.

The Lord be with you
All And also with you

Lift up your hearts
All We lift them to the Lord

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

The following Preface is used, or on Saints' Days and other festivals an alternative may be used.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;

and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks
because by water and the Holy Spirit
you have made us a holy people in Jesus Christ our Lord,
you raise us to new life in him
and renew in us the image of your glory.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Please kneel or sit.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;

he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died:**
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of Mary, Anne and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

All 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.

Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the consecrated bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

All Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world,
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world,
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world,
Grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Please receive communion as directed by the sidesmen. If you usually receive communion in your own church, you are welcome to do so here. Otherwise, you are encouraged to come forward for a blessing. Please ask a priest at the Sanctuary if you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer.

The choir may sing an anthem as communion is taken.

Prayer after Communion

Please remain kneeling or seated. A post-communion sentence is said

All **God of mercy,
by whose grace alone we are accepted
and equipped for your service:
stir up in us the gifts of your Holy Spirit
and make us worthy of our calling;
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Please sit for the Notices.

Giving of a Lighted Candle

The priest gives each of the newly baptised a lighted candle, lit from the Paschal Candle.

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.

**All Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

The Blessing

The priest uses this or another suitable blessing

The God of all grace,
who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus,
establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Go in the light and peace of Christ

All Thanks be to God

Final Hymn (for hymn number see *The Messenger*)

The ministers and people depart.

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