

The CONCLUSION OF THE RITE

The priest: My dear friends, N. has been reborn in baptism. He/she is now called a child of God, for so indeed he/she is. In confirmation he/she will receive the fullness of God's Spirit. In holy communion, he/she will share in the banquet of Christ's sacrifice, calling God his/her Father in the midst of the Church.

In the name of this child, in the Spirit of our common childship, let us pray together in the words our Lord has given us:

All: Our Father . . .

The priest: May God the almighty Father, who filled the world with joy by giving us his only Son, bless this newly-baptised child. May he/she grow to be more fully like Jesus Christ, our Lord. **All: Amen.**

BLESSING OF THE PARENTS

The priest: May almighty God, who gives life on earth and in heaven, bless the parents. They thank God now for the gift he has given them. May they always show that gratitude in action by loving and caring for their child.

All: Amen.

FINAL BLESSING

The priest: May almighty God, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, generously bless all of us who are his faithful children. May we always live as his people, and may God bless all here present with his peace.

All: Amen.

Final Hymn

1 God's spirit is in my heart, who has called me and set me apart.
This is what I have to do, what I have to do.

*He sent me to give the Good News to the poor,
tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more,
tell blind people that they can see,
and set the downtrodden free, and go tell ev'ryone
the news that the Kingdom of God has come,
and go tell ev'ryone the news that God's kingdom has come.*

2 Just as the Father sent me, so I'm sending you out to be
my witnesses throughout the world, the whole of the world.

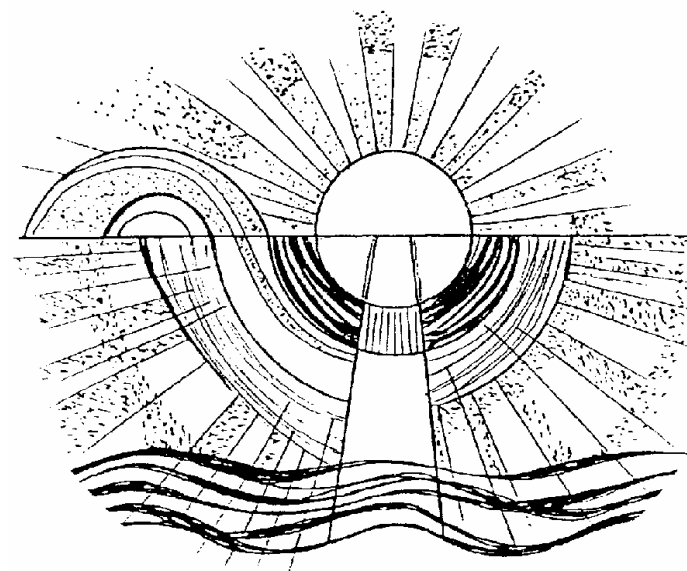
3 Don't carry a load in your pack, you don't need two shirts on your back.
A workman can earn his own keep, can earn his own keep.

4 Don't worry what you have to say, don't worry because on that day
God's spirit will speak in your heart, will speak in your heart.

Alan Dale

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*The Baptism of [whoever]
son/ daughter of [whoever]*



[whenever]

Whichever Parish/Wherever

Opening Hymn

- 1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*
- 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
- 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will send the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

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The priest, greets all present and speaks to them of the special joy of this occasion. He asks the parents: What name do you give your child?

The parents reply: [whatever].

The priest: What do you ask of God's Church for N.?

The parents reply: Baptism.

The priest addresses the parents in these or similar words: You have asked to have your child baptised. In doing so, you are accepting the responsibility of training this child in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him/her up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbours. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?

The parents reply: We do.

Then the priest turns to the godparents: Are you ready to help the parents in their duty as Christian parents?

The godparents reply: We are.

The priest: [N., the Christian community welcomes you with great joy. In its name I claim you for Christ our Saviour by the sign of his cross. I now trace the cross on your forehead, and invite your parents and godparents to do the same.

He signs the child on the forehead, in silence. Then he invites the parents and the godparents to do the same.

Clothing with the White Garment

The priest: N., 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 white garment is put on the child..

The Lighted Candle

The priest takes the Easter candle and says:

Receive the light of Christ

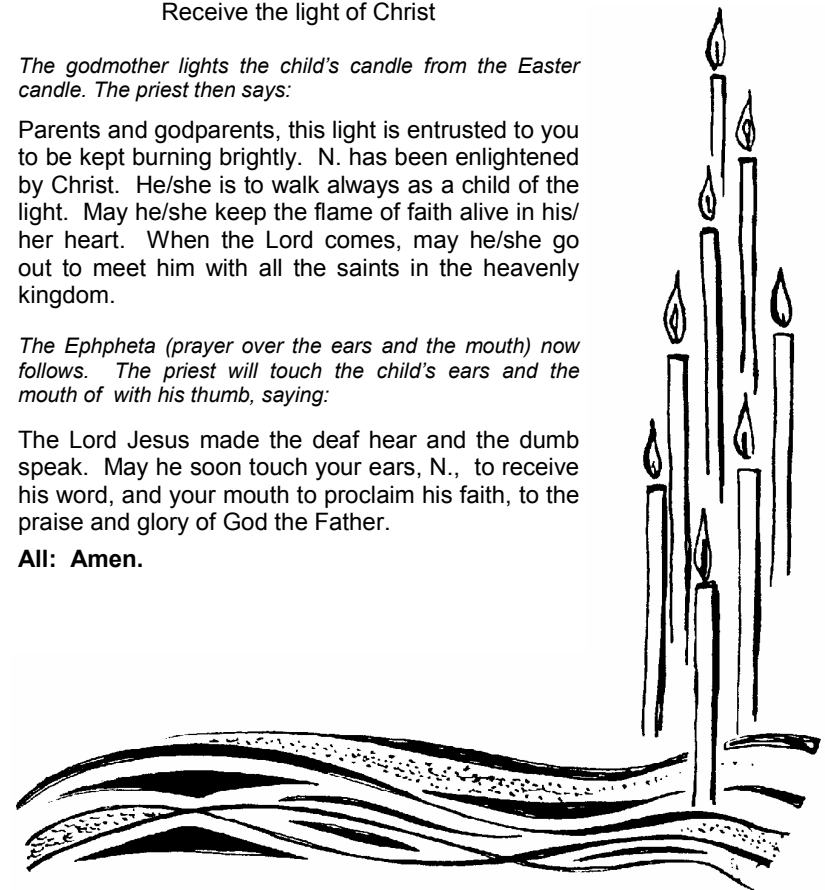
The godmother lights the child's candle from the Easter candle. The priest then says:

Parents and godparents, this light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. N. has been enlightened by Christ. He/she is to walk always as a child of the light. May he/she keep the flame of faith alive in his/her heart. When the Lord comes, may he/she go out to meet him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom.

The Ephpheta (prayer over the ears and the mouth) now follows. The priest will touch the child's ears and the mouth of with his thumb, saying:

The Lord Jesus made the deaf hear and the dumb speak. May he soon touch your ears, N., to receive his word, and your mouth to proclaim his faith, to the praise and glory of God the Father.

All: Amen.



The priest: Do you reject Satan?

The parents and godparents: I do.

The priest: And all his works?

The parents and godparents: I do.

The priest: And all his empty promises?

The parents and godparents: I do.

The priest: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

The parents and godparents: I do.

The 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?

The parents and godparents: I do.

The 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?

The parents and godparents: I do.

The priest: This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: Amen.

BAPTISM

The priest invites the parents and godparents to the font and questions them:

The priest: Is it your will that N. should be baptised in the faith of the Church, which we have all professed with you?

The parents and godparents: It is.

The priest baptises the child, saying:

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

Anointing with Chrism

Then the priest says: God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into his holy people. He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation. As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet and King, so may you live always as a member of his body, sharing everlasting life. **All: Amen.**

Then the priest anoints the child on the crown of the head with the sacred chrism, in silence.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

A reading from Isaiah 43:1-3

Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by your name, you are mine.
Should you pass through the sea, I will be with you;
or through rivers, they will not swallow you up.
Should you walk through fire, you will not be scorched
and the flames will not burn you. For I am Yahweh,
your God, the Holy One of Israel, your saviour.

The Word of the Lord. *R/Thanks be to God.*

Responsorial Psalm — Psalm 90(91)

- 1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in his shadow for life,
say to the Lord: 'My refuge, my Rock in whom I trust!'
*And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.*
- 2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no
fear:
under his wings your refuge his faithfulness your shield.
- 3 You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come.
- 4 For to his angels he's given a command to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

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A reading from the Gospel of Mark (1:7-11)

In the course of his preaching, John the Baptist said
"Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful
than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals.
I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit."

It was at this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee
and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of
the

water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit,
like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven,
'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you'.

The Gospel of the Lord. *R/Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

After the gospel is read, the priest gives a homily followed by bidding prayers

THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

The priest: My dear friends, let us ask our Lord Jesus Christ to look lovingly on N., who is to be baptised, on his/her parents godparents and on all the baptised.

Reader: By the mystery of your death and resurrection, bathe N. in light, give him/her a new life of baptism and welcome him/her into your holy Church. Lord, in your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: Through baptism and confirmation, make N. your faithful follower and a witness to your gospel. Lord, in your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: Make the lives of his/her parents and godparents examples of faith to inspire N.. Lord, in your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: Keep N.'s family always in your love. We remember in a special way his/her [whoever], who has died. Lord, in your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer.

Reader: Renew the grace of our baptism in each one of us. Lord, in your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer.

The priest next invites all present to invoke the saints:

Holy Mary, Mother of God, **pray for us.**

Saint John the Baptist, **pray for us.**

Saint Joseph, **pray for us.**

Saint Matthew and St. James, **pray for us.**

Saint Anthony, **pray for us.**

Archangel Gabriel, **pray for us.**

Saint Ann, **pray for us.**

Saint Peter and St. Paul, **pray for us.**

The litany concludes:

All holy men and women, **pray for us.**

Prayer of Exorcism

After the invocation, The priest says:

Almighty and ever-living God, you sent your only Son into the world to rescue us from the slavery of sin, and to give us the freedom only your sons and daughters enjoy. We pray now for N., who will have to face the world with its temptations and fight the devil with all his cunning. Your Son died and rose again to save us. By his victory over sin and death, cleanse N. from the stain of original sin. Strengthen him/her with the grace of Christ and watch over him/her at every step in life's journey. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

ANOINTING BEFORE BAPTISM

The priest anoints the child on the breast with the oil of catechumens (those preparing for Baptism) saying:

We 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 for ever and ever. **All: Amen.**

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

Blessing & Invocation of God over Baptismal Water

The priest: My dear friends, God uses the sacrament of water to give his divine life to those who believe in him. Let us turn to him, and ask him to pour his gift of life from this font on N., who he has chosen.

The priest: Father, God of mercy, through these waters of baptism you have filled us with new life as your very own children.

All: Blessed be God.

The priest: From all who are baptised in water and the Holy Spirit, you have formed one people, united in your Son Jesus Christ.

All: Blessed be God.

The priest: You have set us free and filled our hearts with the Spirit of your love, that we may live in your peace.

All: Blessed be God.

The priest: You call those who have been baptised to announce the Good News of Jesus Christ to people everywhere.

All: Blessed be God.

The priest: You have called your child to this cleansing water that he/she may share in the faith of your Church and have eternal life. By the mystery of this consecrated water lead him/her to a new and spiritual birth. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

The priest speaks to the parents and to the godparents in these words:

You have come here to present N. for baptism. By water and the Holy Spirit she is to receive the gift of new life from God, who is love. On your part, you must make it your constant care to bring him/her up in the practice of the faith.

See that the divine life which God gives him/her is kept safe from the poison of sin to grow always stronger in his/her heart. If your faith makes you ready to accept this responsibility, renew now the vows of your own baptism. Reject sin; profess your faith in Christ Jesus. This is the faith of the Church. This is the faith in which N. is to be baptised. And so I ask you: