

Giving of the Light

A candle may be lighted from the Paschal Candle and given, a deacon or the Presider saying,

Receive the light of Christ, so that when the Bridegroom cometh, thou mayest go forth with all the saints to meet him; and see that thou dost keep the grace of thy Baptism.

People **Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.**

Presider Let us welcome the newly baptized.

People **We receive you into the household of God: Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection and share with him in his royal priesthood.**

If Confirmation, reception or reaffirmation of baptismal vows follows, prayers beginning on page 559 of the Book of Common Prayer may be used.

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Holy Baptism

in the context of the Eucharist from the Book of Common Prayer

Following the Sermon and before the Nicene Creed at the Holy Eucharist, the Baptism begins with the Presentation and Examination of the Candidates. The Nicene Creed and the Gloria in Excelsis are normally omitted.

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The deacon or priest Presider says,

Beloved in the Lord, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God to witness the Sacrament of Holy Baptism by which *these persons* are to be made *members* of Christ's Body, the Church. By the working of this holy sacrament, ordained by Christ himself, *these persons* will die to sin and be raised to newness of life, receiving the fullness of God's grace that *they* may faithfully serve him all the days of *their lives*.

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

Adults and Older Children

Candidates able to answer for themselves are presented individually by their sponsor(s) as follows:

Sponsor(s)

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

Presider Wilt thou be baptized in this Faith?

Candidate That is my desire.

Infants and Younger Children

Then the candidates unable to answer for themselves are presented individually by their parents and sponsors as follows:

Parents and Sponsors,

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

The Baptismal Covenant

The Presider then says these or similar words:

Dearly beloved, let us join with *those* who *are* now committing *themselves* to Christ Jesus and here renew our own baptismal covenant.

Presider Dost thou desire to reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People **We do.**

Presider Dost thou believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;**

Presider Dost thou believe in his Son Jesus Christ our Lord?

People **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.**

Presider Dost thou believe in God the Holy Ghost?

People **I believe in God the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting.**

Presider Wilt thou continue steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in the breaking of bread, and in prayers?

People **I will, God being my helper.**

Presider Wilt thou persevere in resisting evil and, whenever thou dost fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, God being my helper.**

Presider Dost thou turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as thy Saviour?

Answer I do.

Presider Dost thou put thy whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Presider Dost thou promise to follow and obey him as thy Lord and Master?

Answer I do.

When there are other Candidate(s) to be presented, the Bishop says,

Bishop The other Candidate(s) will now be presented.

Presenters Right Reverend Father-in-God:

I present *these persons* for confirmation.

Or I present *these persons* to be received into this Communion.

Or I present *these persons* who desire to reaffirm their baptismal vows.

Bishop Dost thou reaffirm thy renunciation of evil?

Answer I do.

Bishop Dost thou renew thy commitment to Jesus Christ?

Answer I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Saviour and Lord.

After all have been presented, the Presider addresses the Congregation, saying:

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

People **We will.**

When all have been presented the Presider asks the Parents and Sponsors,

Presider Wilt thou on thy part take heed that this child whom thou dost present to be brought up in the Christian faith and life [*learn the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, and all other things which a Christian ought to know and believe to his/her soul's health*]?

Parents and Sponsors,
I will, God being my helper.

Presider Wilt thou by thy prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ [*and take heed that this child, so soon as sufficiently instructed, be brought to the Bishop to be confirmed*]?

Parents and Sponsors,
I will, God being my helper.

Then the Presider asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the Parents and Sponsors who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children.

Presider Dost thou renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Presider Dost thou renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Presider Dost thou renounce all sinful desires that draw thee from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them all.

Presider Wilt thou proclaim by word and example the gospel of God in Christ?

People **I will, God being my helper.**

Presider Wilt thou seek and serve Christ in all persons and love thy neighbour as thyself?

People **I will, God being my helper.**

Presider Wilt thou strive for justice and peace among all and respect the dignity of every person?

People **I will, God being my helper.**

A person appointed leads the Prayers for the Candidates.

The Baptism

The Presider may ask the name of the persons to be baptized and says, as water is poured over each,

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

We receive *this Child (this Person)* into the Congregation of Christ's flock; and do sign *him/her* with the sign of the Cross, in token that hereafter *he/she* shall not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified, and manfully to fight under his banner, against sin, the world, and the devil; and to continue Christ's faithful soldier and servant unto *his/her* life's end. **Amen.**

And making the sign of the Cross on the person's head [using Chrism if desired], the Presider says,

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

Prayers for the Candidates

Leader Deliver *them*, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open *their* hearts to thy grace and truth.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill *them* with thy holy and life-giving Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep *them* in the faith and communion of thy holy Church.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach *them* to love others in the power of the Holy Ghost.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send *them* into the world in faithful witness to thine
abounding love.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Presider continues:

Most merciful Father, we yield thee hearty thanks that it hath pleased thee to receive thy people, by thy Holy Spirit, for thine own by adoption and grace. Grant that being born again and made heirs of everlasting salvation they may continue thy servants and attain thy promises; through the same Lord Jesus Christ thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Or

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon the devout prayers of thy servants now seeking regeneration and desiring the fountain of thy waters, even as the hart desireth the water-brooks; and of thy goodness grant that they who thirst after thy faith man in this mystery of thy Holy Baptism obtain sanctification both of body and soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

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

The Presider continues,

We give thee thanks, Almighty God, for the gift of water, over which thy Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation; through which thou didst lead the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise; in which thy Son Jesus Christ received the baptism of John and the anointing of the Holy Spirit, being manifested thereby as the Messiah, the Christ, who leadeth us, through his precious death and might resurrection, from the bondage of sin unto life everlasting.

We give thee thanks, O Father, for the water of Baptism, in which we are buried with Christ in his death; by which we partake of his resurrection; through which we are made regenerate of the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to thy Son, we bring into his fellowship them that come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we beseech thee, by thy Holy Spirit, that those here cleansed from sin and made regenerate may continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Saviour, in whom, with thee and the same Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**