

*Y Llyfr Gweddi Gyffredin i'w arfer yn
yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*

*The Book of Common Prayer for use in
the Church in Wales*

GWASANAETHAU BEDYDD
A CHONFFYRMASIWN
(BEDYDD ESGOB)

SERVICES FOR
CHRISTIAN INITIATION

*The Book of Common Prayer for use in
the Church in Wales*

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CHRISTIAN INITIATION

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GENERAL NOTES

- 1 Christian Initiation should normally take place in the course of public worship on a Sunday.
- 2 The minister of Baptism with Confirmation is always a bishop. The minister at the Public Baptism of Infants may be a bishop or a priest. In the absence of either, it is lawful for a deacon to baptize. (See also Note 9 below on emergency baptism.)
- 3 The term ‘godparents’ is used to denote those asked to present children for baptism and to continue to support them. The terms ‘sponsor’ and ‘sponsors’ are used to denote the person or persons who agree to support candidates (of any age) for baptism and/or confirmation. It is not necessary for a candidate to have the same person as godparent and sponsor. Godparents and sponsors must be baptized Christians, and it is desirable that they should be regular communicants of the Church in Wales or of a Church in communion with it.
- 4 The proper Collect and Readings should be used on the Sundays and Holy Days listed in groups 1 and 11 in the New Calendar (2003). On other occasions, the Collect and Readings listed in the Orders for Baptism with Confirmation and the Public Baptism of Infants may be used.
- 5 The threefold administration of the baptismal water (by dipping or pouring) is an ancient practice of the Church and is commended as testifying to the Trinitarian faith in which candidates are baptized. A single administration is, however, lawful and valid. The use of a substantial amount of water is desirable; water must at least flow on the skin of the candidate.
- 6 If it is not certain whether a person has been baptized with water in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, the form of words at the baptism shall be: ‘N, if you have not already been baptized, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**’

- 7 The holy oils are blessed each year by the bishop during Passiontide. Their use in these Orders is optional.
- 8 The use of hymns, psalms and other suitable songs is suggested, as appropriate to local circumstances, at any or all of the following points: during the entry of the ministers, between the readings, after the Signing with the Cross (unless the officiating bishop or priest, the candidates and their sponsors/godparents are already at the font) and during the lighting and distribution of baptismal candles, particularly when a large number of candidates has been baptized or baptized and confirmed.
- 9 In an emergency, a layperson may be the minister of baptism. Further details are given in Appendix 1 to the *Order for Baptism and Confirmation* and Appendix 1 to the *Order for the Public Baptism of Infants*.

AN ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC BAPTISM OF INFANTS

SSTRUCTURE OF THE ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC BAPTISM OF INFANTS

The full structure of the Order for the Public Baptism of Infants is as follows.

Refer to the Notes for detailed information.

*Items marked * are optional.*

1 THE GATHERING

Greeting

* Scripture sentence and response

Presentation of Candidates

Collect

2 THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Old Testament reading

Psalm

New Testament reading

Gospel

Sermon

3 THE LITURGY OF BAPTISM

1 The Decision

2 The Signing with the Cross

3 The Profession of Faith

4 The Blessing of the Baptismal Water

5 The Baptism

6 *The Giving of the Light

4 THE PEACE

5 THE BAPTISMAL EUCHARIST Or 6 PRAYERS

The Thanksgiving

The Communion

The Lord's Prayer

Other prayers

7 THE SENDING OUT

Post-Communion Prayer

Blessing

*The Giving of the Light

Dismissal

NOTES

These Notes should be read in conjunction with the General Notes on page 9.

- 1 It is the responsibility of Christians to bring their children to Holy Baptism.
The parents of baptized children, the godparents and the local church are together responsible for the children's nurture in Christian faith and life. Every effort should be made to enable baptized children to become active members of the worshipping community, to receive appropriate instruction in the Christian faith and in due course to be confirmed by the bishop.
- 2 When infants are to be baptized, prior arrangements should be made with the parish priest. Those bringing an infant to baptism should give the names of at least one godfather and one godmother to the parish priest. Parents may be godparents for their own child, provided that there is at least one other godparent. Godparents must be baptized Christians, and it is desirable that they should be regular communicants of the Church in Wales or of a Church in communion with it.
- 3 Considerable flexibility and imagination should be exercised over the number, length and presentation of the readings and in connection with the sermon.
At least one reading should be used in Section 2. When baptism is administered at a celebration of the Holy Eucharist, a Gospel reading should always be included. The minister may preach at the beginning or end of Section 1, or after the readings in Section 2.
- 4 In Section 3(2), the minister may invite the child's parents and godparents to take part in the Signing with the Cross.
When baptism is administered at the Holy Eucharist, one or more of the prayers from Section 6 may be used in Section 7.
- 5 The use of the holy oils in this Order is optional. If the oils are used, the children being baptized may be anointed with the pure olive oil known as the oil of catechumens either at the end of Section 3(1) or at the signing with the cross in Section 3(2), and chrism may be used as indicated at the end of Section 3(5).

AN ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC BAPTISM OF INFANTS

1 *THE GATHERING*

The minister welcomes the family and speaks to them of the special joy of this occasion.

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

Amen.

Grace and peace be with you
and keep you in the love of Christ.

Or, in Eastertide

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The minister may introduce the service with one of the following.

Either

Our Lord Jesus Christ commanded, ‘Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.’

Thanks be to God.

Or

We were buried with Christ through baptism into his death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we should walk in newness of life.

Thanks be to God.

Or

When Christ was baptized in the Jordan, the Spirit descended like a dove and the Father spoke, saying, ‘You are my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.’

Thanks be to God.

The minister then addresses the parents

What do you ask of the Church of God?

We ask that this child may be baptized.

What name have you given your child?

The parents tell the minister the child's name.

The minister continues

The baptism of its new members is an occasion of great joy for the Christian Church. By water and the Spirit, we are reborn as God's children, and are made followers of Christ, members of his body, the Church, and inheritors of the kingdom of heaven. Will you accept these things for *N*?

We will.

In asking for *N* to be baptized, you are accepting the responsibility of bringing *him/her* up as a Christian. In caring for *him/her*, will you help *him/her* to keep God's commandments by loving God and neighbour as Christ has taught us? Will you pray for *him/her*, and draw *him/her* by your own example into the community of faith?

With the help of God, we will.

The minister addresses the godparents

Will you support and help *N*'s parents in doing these things?

With the help of God, we will.

The minister addresses the whole congregation

Will you welcome *N* and do your best to uphold *him/her* in *his/her* life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

Except on the occasions specified in General Note 4, the following Collect is used

Heavenly Father,
by the power of your Holy Spirit
you give to your faithful people
new life in the water of baptism:
guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit,
that we who are born again may serve you in faith and love
and grow into the full stature of your Son Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

2

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Except on the occasions specified in General Note 4, appropriate readings may be selected from those listed below. See also Note 3.

An Old Testament Reading

Genesis 7.17-23

Exodus 14.19-31

Deuteronomy 30.15-20

2 Kings 5.1-15a

Isaiah 44.1-5

Isaiah 55.1-11

Jeremiah 31.31-34

Ezekiel 36.25-28

The Flood

The crossing of the Red Sea

The choice of two ways

The healing of Naaman

The promise to the servant of God

An invitation to the thirsty

The new covenant

New heart, new spirit

The reader may then say

Either

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Or

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A New Testament Reading

Acts 16.25-34

Romans 6.3-11

Romans 8.11-17

1 Corinthians 12.12-13

Galatians 4.3-7

Galatians 5.16-25

1 Peter 2.4-10

The jailer at Philippi

Dying and rising in Christ

The spirit of sonship

The one body

Abba, Father

Flesh and Spirit

The people of God

The reader may then say

Either

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Or

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Listen to the gospel of Christ according to Saint ...
Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 16.24-27

The disciples of Christ

Matthew 28.16-20

The final commission

Mark 1.1-11

The baptism of Jesus

Mark 1.14-20

The first disciples

Mark 10.13-16

Blessing the children

John 3.1-8

Nicodemus

John 15.1-11

The true vine

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Affirmation of Faith is not said at this point.

3

THE LITURGY OF BAPTISM

1 The Decision

The minister addresses the parents and godparents

You have declared your wish for *N* to be baptized. We therefore now invite you to respond to Christ's call.

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

I renounce evil.

Almighty Father,
you sent your Son into the world
to destroy the powers of darkness.
Hear our prayer for *these children*:
deliver *them* from evil,
give *them* light and joy
and fill *them* with your Holy Spirit,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If the oil of catechumens is used, each child who is to be baptized may be anointed with it either at this point or while being signed with the cross.

2 The Signing with the Cross

The minister continues

By his cross and precious blood, our Lord Jesus Christ has redeemed the world. He has told us that, if any want to become his followers, they must deny themselves, take up their cross and follow him day by day.

The sign of the cross is made on the forehead of each child who is to be baptized.

N, I sign you with the sign of the cross and claim you for our Saviour Jesus Christ.

When all the children to be baptized have been signed with the cross, the minister continues

Never be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

All

**Fight valiantly against sin, the world and the devil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.
Amen.**

3 The Profession of Faith

At the font, the minister addresses the parents and godparents

We invite you now to profess the Christian faith.

Do you believe in God the Father, the Creator of all?

I believe and trust in God the Father.

Do you believe in his Son Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world?

I believe and trust in God the Son.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life?

I believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit.

The minister addresses the congregation

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

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

4 The Blessing of the Baptismal Water

The minister uses one of these forms.

Either

We give thanks to you, O God:
we bless your holy name.

For your gift of water to nourish and sustain all life:
we give you thanks and praise.

Through the waters of the sea
you led the children of Israel from slavery to freedom:
we give you thanks and praise.

At his baptism,
your Son Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit:
we give you thanks and praise.

Through the power of that same Spirit, sanctify this water
that your children who are washed in it
may be united with Christ in his death and resurrection.
Cleanse and deliver them from all sin;
bring them to new birth in the family of your Church
and make them inheritors of your kingdom:
through Jesus Christ our Lord
whom, by the power of the Spirit,
you raised to live with you
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Or

Praise God who made heaven and earth:
who keeps his promise for ever.

Heavenly Father, we thank you
for your love in creation
and for the gift of water
to sustain, cleanse and refresh all living creatures.

We thank you for the covenant you made
with your people of old:
you led them through the sea from slavery to freedom.

We thank you that, in the waters of the Jordan,
your Son Jesus was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By his death on the cross and his resurrection,
he has brought us forgiveness and set us free.

We thank you that in the waters of baptism
you cleanse us from sin,
renew us by your Spirit
and raise us to new life.

Sanctify this water so that your children who are washed in it
may be made one with Christ.
In fulfilment of your promise,
anoint them with your Holy Spirit,
bring them to new birth in the family of your Church
and give them a share in your kingdom:
through Jesus Christ our Lord
whom, by the power of the Spirit,
you raised to live with you
for ever and ever.
Amen.

5 *The Baptism*

The minister baptizes each child, saying

N, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

*The minister may anoint each child on the crown of the head with
chrism, saying*

May God, who has received you by baptism into his
Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace. As Christ
was anointed priest, prophet and king, may you daily be
conformed to his image.

Amen.

*The minister or a member of the congregation may clothe each of the
newly baptized children in a white garment, saying*

You have been clothed with Christ and raised to new life
in him.

6 *The Giving of the Light*

*If included, this may be done either at this point or at the point
indicated in Section 7 below.*

*The minister or a member of the congregation may give a lighted
candle to each of the newly baptized.*

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

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

4

THE PEACE

An appropriate sentence of Scripture may be read.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

A sign of peace may be exchanged.

5

THE BAPTISMAL EUCHARIST

Except on the occasions specified in General Note 4, one of the following prefaces may be used.

... Who ascended to his heavenly throne at your right hand
and through whom you pour out
the Holy Spirit upon your people:
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness
and of the fear of the Lord.

... Who, through his death and resurrection
has made us children of the light.
In baptism we share the promise of his glory,
and are filled with a joy that never ends.

... You sent him to be the Saviour of the world,
and he sends us to proclaim the good news
and to make known the way of truth.

After Communion, the service concludes with Section 7.

6

PRAYERS

If the Holy Eucharist is not celebrated, the service concludes with the Lord's Prayer and one or more of the prayers provided here, or other appropriate prayers, followed by the blessing and dismissal from Section 7.

Either

Let us pray with confidence to the Father:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Or

As our Saviour taught us, we boldly pray:

**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.**

Faithful and loving God,
Bless those who care for *these children*
and grant them your gifts of love, wisdom and faith.
Pour upon them your healing and reconciling love,
and protect their home from all evil.
Fill them with the light of your presence
and establish them in the joy of your kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Heavenly Father, your Son shared with the Blessed Virgin
Mary and Saint Joseph the life of an earthly home at
Nazareth. Pour out your blessing on the *homes of these*
your children. May *they* grow in your love, learn to serve
you and care for those in need, following in the footsteps
of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

*The post-communion prayers from Section 7 are suitable for use at
this point.*



THE SENDING OUT

One of the following post-communion prayers may be used.

Either

God of grace and life,
in your love you have given us
a place among your people;
keep us faithful to our baptism,
and prepare us for that glorious day
when the whole creation will be made perfect
in your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Or

**Eternal God,
you have declared in Christ
the fulness of your purpose of love.
May we live by faith,
walk in hope,
and be renewed in love,
until the world reflects your glory,
and you are all in all.
Even so; come, Lord Jesus!**

Amen.

The blessing may be introduced with one of the following.

Either

In baptism we are buried with Christ
and raised to new life in him.
May you all know his joy in lives of service and praise.

Amen.

In baptism we are renewed
by the healing grace of the Holy Spirit.
May the fruit of the Spirit grow and flourish in you.

Amen.

In baptism we are ransomed, healed, restored and forgiven.
May you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God's love in Christ.

Amen.

Or

The God of peace who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good deed to do his will, creating in you that which is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever ...

Or

Almighty God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the victory, give you joy and peace in believing ...

Or

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life ...

[and] the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

If this was not done at the point indicated earlier in the service, the minister or a member of the congregation may now give a lighted candle to each of the newly baptized.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

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

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ.

Amen.

Or, in Eastertide

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

In the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The minister may lead the newly baptized and their parents and godparents through the church.

APPENDICES

i

PRIVATE BAPTISM OF INFANTS IN AN EMERGENCY

This Order is for use only in an emergency.

The minister and those present say as many of the prayers from the Order for the Public Baptism of Infants as the emergency allows.

Then the minister baptizes the child, saying

**N, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.**

Amen.

All present then say

Our Father ...

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.**

Amen.

Baptism By A Lay Person

If no ordained minister is available, one of those present names the child and pours water upon him/her three times, saying

**N, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.**

Amen.

Then all may say the Lord's Prayer and the Grace.

Any person who has administered baptism privately in an emergency must notify the parish priest without delay.

The customary record is entered in the baptismal register.

If the child lives, he/she should be brought to the church as soon as is convenient after the baptism.

**THE WELCOME IN CHURCH OF INFANTS PRIVATELY
BAPTIZED**

Before using this Order, the minister must establish by whom and in whose presence the child was baptized, and whether the child was baptized with water in the Name of the Holy Trinity. If there is doubt, the minister should administer conditional baptism. The Order for the Public Baptism of Infants is used for this purpose, except that, in Section 3(5), the words at the baptism are changed to ‘If you have not already been baptized, N, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.’

If the minister is satisfied that the child has already been baptized, the service proceeds as follows.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Grace and peace be with you
and keep you in the love of Christ.

Or, in Eastertide

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The minister may introduce the service with one of the following.

Either

Our Lord Jesus Christ commanded, ‘Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.’
Thanks be to God.

Or

We were buried with Christ through baptism into his death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we should walk in newness of life.
Thanks be to God.

Or

When Christ was baptized in the Jordan, the Spirit descended like a dove and the Father spoke, saying, ‘You are my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.’
Thanks be to God.

The minister then addresses the parents

The baptism of its new members is an occasion of great joy for the Christian Church. By water and the Spirit, we are reborn as God's children, and are made followers of Christ, members of his body, the Church, and inheritors of the kingdom of heaven.

You have the responsibility of bringing *N* up as a Christian. In caring for *him/her*, will you help *him/her* to keep God's commandments by loving God and neighbour as Christ has taught us? Will you pray for *him/her*, and draw *him/her* by your own example into the community of faith?

With the help of God, we will.

The minister addresses the godparents

Will you support and help *N*'s parents in doing these things?

With the help of God, we will.

The minister addresses the whole congregation

Will you welcome *N* and do your best to uphold *him/her* in *his/her* life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

Except on the occasions specified in General Note 4, the following Collect is used

Heavenly Father,
by the power of your Holy Spirit
you give to your faithful people
new life in the water of baptism:
guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit,
that we who are born again may serve you in faith and love
and grow into the full stature of your Son Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Sections 2–3(3) of the Order for the Public Baptism of Infants are then used.

In Section 3(1), the minister’s opening address to the parents and godparents is replaced by the following

Through baptism, God has already welcomed N as his own child. We therefore invite you now to respond to Christ’s call.

In Section 3(2), the minister says the following while making the sign of the cross on the child’s forehead

N, I sign you with the sign of the cross to show that, through baptism, you belong to our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Immediately after Section 3(3), the minister may anoint the child on the crown of the head with chrism, saying

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace. As Christ was anointed priest, prophet and king, may you daily be conformed to his image.

Amen.

The minister or a member of the congregation may then clothe the child in a white garment, saying

You have been clothed with Christ and raised to new life in him.

Section 3(6) of the Order for the Public Baptism of Infants may be used.

The service concludes with Sections 4–7 of the Order for the Public Baptism of Infants.

WELCOME OF THOSE PREPARING FOR THE BAPTISM OF CHILDREN

At the Holy Eucharist, this short optional act of welcome precedes the Nicene Creed. At Morning and Evening Prayer, it may replace the intercessory prayers. If the following prayer of thanksgiving is used at the Public Baptism of Infants, it should be inserted immediately after the Greeting in Section 1.

This prayer may be said.

Today we give thanks to almighty God with *N and N*
for their children *N and N*.

Gracious God, creator and sustainer of human life,
your church gives thanks with *N and N*
for the gift of *N and N*
whom you have entrusted to *their* care;
may *they* be patient and understanding,
ever ready to guide and forgive,
that in *their* love *N and N* may know your love,
and learn to love you with all *their hearts*
and *their* neighbour as *themselves*,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The minister addresses the congregation

N and N are preparing for the baptism of *their children N and N*. Baptism is the sign of new life in Christ. Together we share the responsibility for encouraging *these children* in the new life that Jesus Christ offers to all.

Will you therefore welcome *these children and their families*,
and support them with your prayers and fellowship?

With the help of God, we will.

The minister addresses the parents

N and N, we welcome you and *your children* with joy,
praying that God will always bless and guide you.

Will you help *your children* to grow in the knowledge and
love of God and to take *their* place in the life and worship
of the Church?

With the help of God, we will.

[The minister addresses the godparents

Will you help *N and N* to nurture *their children* as they grow
in faith?

With the help of God, we will.]

The minister says

Eternal and loving God,
you have promised that those who seek will find you.
We pray for your blessing on *these families*
as they prepare for the baptism of *N and N*:
guide them with your wisdom
and deepen their knowledge and love of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Suitable petitions should be included in the Intercession, for example

Look with love on *these children, their parents and godparents.*

Make them faithful followers of Christ and lead them to the joys of your kingdom.

Inspire these parents [and godparents] to be living examples of faith to *their children.*

Renew the grace of baptism in each one of us.

iv

CELEBRATION AFTER AN INITIATION SERVICE OUTSIDE THE PARISH

See An Order for Baptism with Confirmation, Appendix vi.

AN ORDER FOR
BAPTISM WITH
CONFIRMATION

STRUCTURE OF THE ORDER FOR BAPTISM WITH CONFIRMATION

The full structure of the Order for Baptism with Confirmation is as follows.

Refer to the Notes for detailed information.

*Items marked * are optional.*

1 THE GATHERING

Greeting

* Scripture sentence and response

Presentation of Candidates

Collect

2 THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Old Testament reading

Psalm

New Testament reading

Gospel

Sermon

3 THE LITURGY OF BAPTISM WITH CONFIRMATION

1 The Decision

2 The Signing with the Cross

3 The Profession of Faith

4 The Blessing of the Baptismal Water

5 The Baptism

6 *The Giving of the Light

7 The Confirmation

4 THE PEACE

5 THE BAPTISMAL EUCHARIST Or 6 PRAYERS

The Thanksgiving

The Communion

The Lord's Prayer

Other prayers

7 THE SENDING OUT

Post-Communion Prayer

Blessing

*The Giving of the Light

Dismissal

NOTES

These Notes should be read in conjunction with the General Notes on page 9.

- 1 Baptism with Confirmation normally takes place in the context of the Holy Eucharist. Provision is made in Section 6 for occasions when the Eucharist is not celebrated.
- 2 When previously baptized adults are to be confirmed, Sections 3(2) and 3(4)–(6) are omitted.
- 3 If the baptism of children is to be administered without confirmation, the *Order for the Public Baptism of Infants* should be used.

This Order makes provision for children who are not old enough to answer for themselves to be baptized at the same time as their parents or other adult family members.

In these circumstances, the five questions to the parents and godparents from Section 1 of the *Order for the Public Baptism of Infants* should be inserted into Section 1 of this Order between the bishop's question to those being confirmed and the bishop's question to the congregation.

All responses are made on behalf of the children by their parents and godparents, and it is fitting that the children should be baptized immediately after the adult members of their families.

- 4 The detailed ordering of the service should be a matter for consultation between the bishop and the parish priest. In Section 3(2), the bishop may invite candidates' sponsors (and, in the case of small children, their parents and godparents) to take part in the Signing with the Cross.

In Section 3(3), the candidates may profess the Trinitarian faith by reciting the Apostles' Creed. In this case, the bishop's three questions are omitted. After the candidates have said the Creed, the bishop should continue with the words 'This is the faith of the Church', to which the congregation replies in the manner indicated.

The bishop may delegate the act of baptism to another lawful minister.

- 5 If the holy oils are used, the candidates for baptism may be anointed with the pure olive oil known as the oil of catechumens either at the end of Section 3(1) or at the signing with the cross in Section 3(2), and chrism may be used either as indicated at the end of Section 3(5) or in Section 3(7) in conjunction with the prayer beginning 'Confirm, O Lord, your servant'. Candidates who are being both baptized and confirmed should not be anointed with chrism at the end of Section 3(5).

AN ORDER FOR BAPTISM WITH CONFIRMATION

1

THE GATHERING

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

Amen.

Grace and peace be with you
and keep you in the love of Christ.

Or, in Eastertide,

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The bishop may introduce the service with one of the following.

Either

Our Lord Jesus Christ commanded, ‘Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.’

Thanks be to God.

Or

We were buried with Christ through baptism into his death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we should walk in newness of life.

Thanks be to God.

Or

When Christ was baptized in the Jordan, the Spirit descended like a dove and the Father spoke, saying, ‘You are my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.’

Thanks be to God.

The candidates stand with their sponsors in front of the bishop. The person appointed may first name the candidates.

Reverend Father in God, I present to you *these persons* that they may be baptized and confirmed.

The bishop asks the candidates for baptism and confirmation

Is it your wish to be baptized and confirmed?

It is.

The bishop asks the candidates for confirmation

Is it your wish to be confirmed?

It is.

The bishop asks the congregation

Will you welcome these candidates for *baptism and confirmation* and do your best to uphold them in their life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

The bishop addresses the congregation in these or similar words

In the sacrament of Baptism our heavenly Father sets his people free from the power of sin and death by uniting us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. By water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn the children of God and inheritors of the kingdom of heaven. All who are baptized into Christ are members of the Church, the Body of Christ, where we grow in grace and daily increase in faith, love and obedience to the will of God.

Except on the occasions specified in General Note 4, the following Collect is used

Heavenly Father,
by the power of your Holy Spirit
you give to your faithful people
new life in the water of baptism:
guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit,
that we who are born again may serve you in faith and love
and grow into the full stature of your Son Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

2

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Except on the occasions specified in General Note 4, appropriate readings may be selected from those listed below.

An Old Testament Reading

Genesis 7.17-23

Exodus 14.19-31

Exodus 20.1-17

Deuteronomy 30.15-20

2 Kings 5.1-15a

Isaiah 44.1-5

Isaiah 55.1-11

Jeremiah 31.31-34

Ezekiel 36.25-28

Ezekiel 37.1-10

The Flood

The crossing of the Red Sea

The Ten Commandments

The choice of two ways

The healing of Naaman

The promise to the servant of God

An invitation to the thirsty

The new covenant

New heart, new spirit

The valley of dry bones

The reader may then say

Either

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Or

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A New Testament Reading

Acts 8.14-17

Acts 16.25-34

Romans 6.3-11

Romans 8.11-17

1 Corinthians 12.4-13

1 Corinthians 12.12-13

Galatians 4.3-7

Galatians 5.16-25

1 Peter 2.4-10

Baptism and the gift of the Spirit

The jailer at Philippi

Dying and rising in Christ

The spirit of sonship

Many gifts, one Spirit

One body in Christ

Abba, Father

Flesh and Spirit

The people of God

The reader may then say

Either

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Or

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Listen to the gospel of Christ according to Saint ...
Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 5.1-12

The Beatitudes

Matthew 16.24-27

The disciples of Christ

Matthew 28.16-20

The final commission

Mark 1.1-11

The baptism of Jesus

Mark 1.14-20

The first disciples

Luke 24.45-end

Witnesses

John 3.1-8

Nicodemus

John 15.1-11

The true vine

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Affirmation of Faith is not said at this point.

3

THE LITURGY OF BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION

1 The Decision

The bishop addresses the candidates and their sponsors

You have declared your wish to be *baptized and confirmed* (and for these children /this child to be baptized). We therefore now invite you to respond to Christ's call.

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

I renounce evil.

The bishop says to those who are to be baptized

May God, who has called you out of darkness into light, restore you in the image of his glory and lead you in the way of Christ.

Amen.

If the oil of catechumens is used, the candidates for baptism may be anointed with it either at this point or while they are being signed with the cross.

2 *The Signing with the Cross*

The bishop continues

By his cross and precious blood, our Lord Jesus Christ has redeemed the world. He has told us that, if any want to become his followers, they must deny themselves, take up their cross and follow him day by day.

The sign of the cross is made on the forehead of each one who is to be baptized.

N, I sign you with the sign of the cross and claim you for our Saviour Jesus Christ.

When all the candidates for baptism have been signed with the cross, the bishop continues

Never be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

All

**Fight valiantly against sin, the world and the devil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.
Amen.**

3 *The Profession of Faith*

At the font, the bishop addresses the candidates and their sponsors

We invite you now to profess the Christian faith.

Do you believe in God the Father, the Creator of all?

I believe and trust in God the Father.

Do you believe in his Son Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world?

I believe and trust in God the Son.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life?

I believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit.

The bishop addresses the congregation

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

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

4 The Blessing of the Baptismal Water

The bishop uses one of these forms.

Either

We give thanks to you, O God:
we bless your holy name.

For your gift of water to nourish and sustain all life,
we give you thanks and praise.

Through the waters of the sea
you led the children of Israel from slavery to freedom:
we give you thanks and praise.

At his baptism,
your Son Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit:
we give you thanks and praise.

Through the power of that same Spirit, sanctify this water
that your children who are washed in it
may be united with Christ in his death and resurrection.
Cleanse and deliver them from all sin;
bring them to new birth in the family of your Church
and make them inheritors of your kingdom:
through Jesus Christ our Lord
whom, by the power of the Spirit,
you raised to live with you
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Or

Praise God who made heaven and earth:
who keeps his promise for ever.

Heavenly Father, we thank you
for your love in creation
and for the gift of water
to sustain, cleanse and refresh all living creatures.

We thank you for the covenant you made
with your people of old:
you led them through the sea from slavery to freedom.

We thank you that, in the waters of the Jordan,
your Son Jesus was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By his death on the cross and his resurrection,
he has brought us forgiveness and set us free.

We thank you that in the waters of baptism
you cleanse us from sin,
renew us by your Spirit
and raise us to new life.

Sanctify this water so that your children who are washed in it
may be made one with Christ.
In fulfilment of your promise,
anoint them with your Holy Spirit,
bring them to new birth in the family of your Church
and give them a share in your kingdom:
through Jesus Christ our Lord
whom, by the power of the Spirit,
you raised to live with you
for ever and ever.
Amen.

5 The Baptism

The bishop baptizes each candidate, saying

N, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

*Any small children who have been baptized but are not to be
confirmed on this occasion may be anointed on the crown of the head
with chrism by the bishop, who says*

May God, who has received you by baptism into his
Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace. As Christ
was anointed priest, prophet and king, may you daily be
conformed to his image.

Amen.

*The bishop or a member of the congregation may clothe each of the
newly baptized in a white garment, saying*

You have been clothed with Christ and raised to new life
in him.

6 The Giving of the Light

If included, this may be done either at this point or at the point indicated in Section 7 below.

The bishop or a member of the congregation may give a lighted candle to each of the newly baptized.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

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

7 The Confirmation

The bishop, standing, extends his hands towards the candidates for confirmation and says

Almighty and everlasting God,
you have given your *servants* new birth
in baptism by water and the Holy Spirit,
and have forgiven *them* all *their* sins.
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon *them*:
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding;
the Spirit of counsel and inward strength;
the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness;
and let *their* delight be in the fear of the Lord.

Amen.

The bishop addresses each candidate by name

N, God has called you by name and made you his own.

The bishop lays his right hand on the head of each candidate, saying

Either

Confirm, O Lord, your *servant /child* with your heavenly grace
and anoint *him /her* with your Holy Spirit;
empower *him /her* for your service
and keep *him /her* in eternal life.

Amen.

Or

Confirm, Lord, your servant N with your heavenly grace,
that *he /she* may continue yours for ever,
and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more
until *he /she* comes to your everlasting kingdom.

Amen.

4

THE PEACE

An appropriate sentence of Scripture may be read.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

A sign of peace may be exchanged.

5

THE BAPTISMAL EUCHARIST

Except on the occasions specified in General Note 4, one of the following prefaces may be used

... Who ascended to his heavenly throne at your right hand
and through whom you pour out
the Holy Spirit upon your people:
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness
and of the fear of the Lord.

... Who, through his death and resurrection
has made us children of the light.
In baptism we share the promise of his glory,
and are filled with a joy that never ends.

... You sent him to be the Saviour of the world,
and he sends us to proclaim the good news
and to make known the way of truth.

The newly confirmed should receive Holy Communion before the other members of the congregation.

After Communion, the service concludes with Section 7.

6

PRAYERS WHEN THERE IS NO BAPTISMAL EUCHARIST

If the Holy Eucharist is not celebrated, the service concludes with the Lord's Prayer and one or more other appropriate prayers, followed by the blessing and dismissal from Section 7.

Either

Let us pray with confidence to the Father:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Or

As our Saviour taught us, we boldly pray:

**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.**

Almighty and everlasting God,
let your fatherly hand be over these your children;
let your Holy Spirit ever be with them;
strengthen them continually
 with the Body and Blood of your Son;
and so lead them
 in the knowledge and obedience of your Word,
that they may serve you in this life
and live with you for ever in the life to come;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The post-communion prayers from Section 7 are suitable for use at this point.

If small children have been baptized, further appropriate prayers may be added from the Order for the Public Baptism of Infants.

7

THE SENDING OUT

One of the following post-communion prayers may be used.

Either

Almighty God, we thank you
for our fellowship in the household of faith
with all those baptized in your name:
keep us faithful to our baptism,
and make us ready for that day
when the whole creation shall be made perfect
in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Or

**Eternal God,
you have declared in Christ
the fulness of your purpose of love:
may we live by faith,
walk in hope
and be renewed in love,
until the world reflects your glory,
and you are all in all.**

Even so; come, Lord Jesus!

Amen.

The blessing may be introduced with one of the following.

Either

In baptism we are buried with Christ
and raised to new life in him.
May you all know his joy in lives of service and praise.

Amen.

In baptism we are renewed
by the healing grace of the Holy Spirit.
May the fruit of the Spirit grow and flourish in you.

Amen.

In baptism we are ransomed, healed, restored and forgiven.
May you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God's love in Christ.

Amen.

Or

The God of peace who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good deed to do his will, creating in you that which is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever ...

Or

Almighty God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the victory, give you joy and peace in believing ...

Or

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life ...

[and] the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

If this was not done at the point indicated earlier in the service, the bishop or a member of the congregation may now give a lighted candle to each of the newly baptized.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

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

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Or, in Eastertide

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

In the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The bishop may lead the newly baptized and confirmed through the church.

APPENDICES

i

EMERGENCY BAPTISM

In an emergency, if no ordained minister is available, a lay person may be the minister of baptism.

Before baptizing, the minister should ask the name of the person to be baptized. If, for any reason, there is uncertainty as to the person's name, the baptism can be properly administered without a name (so long as the identity of the person baptized can be duly recorded).

The following form is sufficient.

The minister pours water on the person to be baptized, saying
I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Then all may say the Lord's Prayer and the Grace.

Any person who has administered baptism privately in an emergency must notify the parish priest without delay.

The customary record is entered in the baptismal register.

If the person baptized in this way lives, he/she should come or be brought to church. Sections 1, 2, 3(1)–(3) and 4–7 of the Order for Baptism with Confirmation should be used, with the following changes.

In Section 1, the minister says to the congregation

We welcome N, who has been baptized and now comes to take his/her place in the company of God's people. Will you do your best to uphold him/her in his/her life in Christ?

With the help of God we will.

Immediately after Section 3(3), the prayer from Section 3(5) beginning 'May God, who has received you by baptism ...' may be used, and the person may be anointed on the crown of the head with chrism. The person may also be clothed with a white garment while the words accompanying this action in Section 3(5) are said.

Section 3(6) may also be used.

All persons baptized in this way should be brought to be confirmed by the bishop after due preparation.

ADMISSION AND WELCOME OF CANDIDATES FOR BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION

The use of this act of admission and welcome is optional. If used, it should take place during an act of public worship, ideally at the Holy Eucharist on a Sunday. At the Holy Eucharist, it precedes the Nicene Creed. At Morning and Evening Prayer, it may replace the intercessory prayers.

The minister addresses those to be baptized and confirmed

What do you ask of the Church of God?

I ask to be baptized and confirmed.

Why do you ask to be baptized and confirmed?

Because I want to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Why do you want to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Because Jesus Christ is Lord.

The minister addresses the candidates' sponsors

These candidates have asked to be baptized and confirmed. Are you willing to play your part in their preparation through your prayers, encouragement and good example?

We are.

The minister addresses the congregation

These candidates *are now setting out / have set out* on the road to baptism and confirmation. They will need the support of our prayers and love. Will you give them that support?

We will.

The minister addresses those to be confirmed

What do you ask of the Church of God?

I ask to be confirmed.

Why do you ask to be confirmed?

That I may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

Why do you seek that strength?

That I may be a faithful disciple of Jesus.

The minister addresses the candidates' sponsors

These candidates have asked to be confirmed. Are you willing to play your part in their preparation through your prayers, encouragement and good example?

We are.

The minister addresses the congregation

These candidates *are now setting out / have set out* on the road to confirmation. They will need the support of our prayers and love. Will you give them that support?

We will.

The minister says to the candidates

By his cross and precious blood, our Lord Jesus Christ has redeemed the world. He has told us that, if any want to become his followers, they must deny themselves, take up their cross and follow him day by day.

The minister makes the sign of the cross, using the oil of catechumens if desired, on the forehead of each one who is to be baptized and confirmed, saying to each

N, receive the sign of the cross. May Christ our Redeemer protect and guide you.

Amen.

The minister makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each one who is to be confirmed, saying to each

N, receive the sign of the cross. May Christ our Redeemer, who in your baptism claimed you for his own, protect and guide you.

Amen.

When all the candidates have been signed with the cross, the minister continues

I admit you as candidates for *baptism and* confirmation. The Lord bless you and keep watch over you; the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord look lovingly on you and give you peace.

Amen.

A representative of the congregation welcomes the candidates

We welcome you joyfully as fellow disciples of Jesus, praying that with us you will come to know Christ more fully day by day and that you will try to live the Christian life.

Another representative of the congregation may present copies of a gospel to the candidates, saying

Receive this book. It contains the good news of God's love. Take it as your guide.

Suitable petitions for the candidates should be included in the Intercession, for example

May God the Father reveal his Christ to them more and more with every passing day.

May they undertake with generosity whatever the Lord may ask of them.

May their hearts and ours become more responsive to the needs of others.

May they be preserved from all discouragement and fear.

Cleansed from their sins, strengthened by the Holy Spirit and nourished with the bread of life, may they come to know Christ more clearly, to love him more dearly and to follow him more nearly.

iii

THE APOSTLES' CREED

At an appropriate stage in their preparation, the Apostles' Creed may be formally passed on to the candidates for baptism and/or confirmation.

If this is done at the Holy Eucharist, the Apostles' Creed should on this occasion replace the Nicene Creed.

The minister addresses the candidates

Brothers and sisters, listen carefully to the words of the Apostles' Creed. It was formed in the earliest centuries as a summary of the Christian Faith for those being received into the Church. It speaks to us of God's great love for the world.

The candidates listen while the Apostles' Creed is said.

The minister says

Holy God,
faithful and unchanging,
enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth
and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love,
that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

INTERCESSION FOR THE CANDIDATES

On a suitable occasion as the day of baptism and confirmation approaches, the following Intercession may be used

Let us pray to the Lord for the candidates for *baptism and confirmation* and for ourselves, that we all may be renewed by God's grace and together share the joy of discipleship.

That the candidates for *baptism and confirmation* may sincerely reject everything in their lives that is displeasing and contrary to Christ, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That those who are instructing them in the Christian faith may convey to them the truth of your word, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That their sponsors may be living examples of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we all may grow in love and be constant in prayer, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may share with others the joy we have found in our faith, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That, in fellowship with us, those who hesitate to trust in Christ may find him, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

One or both of the following prayers is then said, as appropriate.

For the candidates for baptism and confirmation

Father, through Jesus your Son you have granted us new birth in the Spirit. Bless these your servants as they earnestly prepare for their baptism and confirmation. Sanctify them in preparation for your gifts, that they may be reborn as your children and be made inheritors of your kingdom and members of your Church: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

For the candidates for confirmation

Father, bless these your servants who have been baptized by water and the Holy Spirit, that they may persevere in following Christ. Enlighten them with your presence, and give them joy as they worship and serve you: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



COMMITMENT TO CHRISTIAN LIFE AND SERVICE AND AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

In accordance with pastoral circumstances, a form for Commitment to Christian Life and Service and /or a form for Affirmation of Faith may be used either on appropriate occasions (e.g., at Easter) with the whole congregation, or with individuals who have already been baptized and confirmed.

When acts of Commitment to Christian Life and Service and /or Affirmation of Faith are made at the Holy Eucharist, one of the forms provided for affirmation may be used in place of the Nicene Creed.

After corporate acts of Commitment to Christian Life and Service and /or Affirmation of Faith, the people may be sprinkled with baptismal water. Alternatively, members of the congregation may be invited to express their continuing commitment to Christ by going to the water and making the sign of the cross with it on their foreheads.

Forms for Commitment to Christian Life and Service

1

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

I renounce evil.

2

The following may be used separately or in combination, as appropriate.

a

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

b

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

I come to Christ.

c

I answer the call of God my Creator.

I trust in Jesus Christ as my Saviour.

I seek new life from the Holy Spirit.

3

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

Forms for Affirmation of Faith

1

Do you believe in God the Father, the Creator of all?

I believe and trust in God the Father.

Do you believe in his Son Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world?

I believe and trust in God the Son.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life?

I believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

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

2

Either

a

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

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

Or
b

Do you believe in God the Father?
**I believe and trust in God the Father,
who created all that is.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
**I believe and trust in his Son, Jesus Christ,
who redeemed humankind.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
**I believe and trust in his Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God.**

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

This is the faith of the Church.
**This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

3

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
Source of all being and life,
the One for whom we exist?
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?
I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?
I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.
**This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Prayers

After an individual act of commitment and/or affirmation

Lord, look with favour on your servant N. Give him/her courage, patience and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian calling, through Jesus Christ our Lord and in the power of your Spirit.

Amen.

After a corporate act of commitment and/or affirmation

One of the following

May almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

Almighty God, we thank you
for our fellowship in the household of faith
with all those baptized in your name:
keep us faithful to our baptism,
and make us ready for that day
when the whole creation shall be made perfect
in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

**Eternal God,
you have declared in Christ
the fulness of your purpose of love:
may we live by faith,
walk in hope,
and be renewed in love,
until the world reflects your glory,
and you are all in all.
Even so; come, Lord Jesus!
Amen.**

CELEBRATION AFTER AN INITIATION SERVICE OUTSIDE THE PARISH

When Baptism and/or Confirmation have been celebrated outside the parish, it may be appropriate for the regular congregation to acknowledge this important transition. This short celebration may be used either as indicated below at the Holy Eucharist or at Morning or Evening Prayer. In the latter case, it may replace the intercessory prayers.

After the Nicene Creed, the priest asks those who have been baptized and/or confirmed to come forward. The priest addresses the congregation

We give thanks today with *N and N* for their recent baptism and confirmation.

In the case of small children who have been baptized elsewhere, the priest says

We give thanks today with *N and N* for the recent baptism of their children *N and N*.

The priest continues

Will you uphold them [*these children*] in their new life in Christ? Will you pray for them [*their parents and godparents*] and encourage them in following Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

A suitable petition or petitions should be used in the Intercession, for example

We pray for *N and N*, that *they* may continue to grow in the grace of Christ, take *their* place in the company of your people and reflect your glory in the world.

[After the baptism of small children]

Give grace to the parents and godparents of *these children* and to all who are responsible for guiding *them* in the way of faith.

After the Intercession, the priest addresses the recently baptized and/or confirmed

We give thanks with you today and greet you with joy.

**We are members together of the Church,
the Body of Christ,
children of the same heavenly Father
and inheritors of the kingdom of God.**

The Peace follows.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The Church of England: collect 'Heavenly Father...' (pp. 21, 67), 'You have received...' (pp. 33, 79), prayer 'Faithful and loving God...' (p. 39), prayer 'God of grace and life...' (p. 41), prayer 'Eternal God...' (pp. 41, 87), prayer 'Almighty God, we thank you...' (p. 87), Commitment to Christian Life and Service, form 2 (p. 103): from *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England* copyright © The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England, 2000; reproduced by permission; 'N and N are preparing...' † (p. 53), 'Eternal and loving God...' † (p. 55), 'N, receive the sign...' (p. 95), 'N, receive this book...'* (p. 95), first three petitions of the Intercessions (p. 97), 'Holy God...' (p. 97): from *Common Worship: Christian Initiation* copyright © The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England, 2006; reproduced by permission.

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The Rt Revd Dr David Stancliffe: 'N, God has called you...' (p. 79).

* indicates that the material has been slightly modified

† indicates that the material has been substantially modified

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