

# Infant Baptism Service

*The godparents stand, and the minister says to them*

Children are baptised on the understanding that they will be brought up as faithful members of the Church, to follow Christ and to fight against evil; and that they will be brought to the bishop to be confirmed by him, when they are of age to take upon themselves the promises you are about to make on their behalf.

As they grow up they need encouragement, teaching, and the help of a good example, so that they may learn to worship God, to pray to him, to put their faith and trust in him, and to take their place in the life of the Church.

Parents and godparents, *this child* depends chiefly on you for the help and encouragement *he/she* needs. Are you willing to give your child this help and encouragement by every means in your power?

*The parents and godparents answer*

**I am willing.**

Let us pray that God will grant to *these children* that which by nature *they* cannot have; that God will baptise *them* with the Holy Spirit and that *they* will be received into Christ's holy Church.

*All join the minister in saying*

**Heavenly Father, we thank you that in your great love  
you have called us to know you and to trust in you.  
Increase this knowledge and strengthen our faith.  
We ask that *these children* may receive your Holy Spirit and be born  
again,  
thereby inheriting your eternal Kingdom.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## PROMISES

The minister continues to address the parents and godparents  
Those who bring young children to be baptised must declare allegiance to Christ and rejection of all that is evil: the devil and all his works, the empty display and false values of the world, and the sinful desires of the flesh.

Therefore I ask you, are you yourself a follower of Jesus Christ and a member of his Church, sincerely believing the promises of God?

**I am.**

Will you keep God's holy will and commandments, and serve him faithfully throughout your life?

**With God's help I intend to do so.**

Are you willing to sponsor your child accepting responsibility for *his/her* Christian upbringing?

**I am willing.**

*This child* has been brought for baptism into the Christian faith. Let us now profess the faith into which *he/she* is to be brought up.

*All join in saying the Apostles Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, God's 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 will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church,**

**the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

## BAPTISM

*The minister then takes each child, in turn, and having asked his/her name baptises him/her saying*

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

*The minister continues*

We receive this child into the congregation of Christ's flock and sign *him/her* with the sign of the cross, to show that *he/she* will not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

*Here we present the children with a Bible of their own*