

A service of Baptism used in the Tring Team Parish.

WELCOME

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

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
and also with you.

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.

WE SAY SORRY

O God our loving Father, we are very sorry for all the things we have done to make you sad; we have sometimes been selfish, bad tempered or disobedient .

We are sorry for all the things we have failed to do; for the work we did not finish, the thank you we forgot to say, the friends we did not help, the quarrel we did not resolve.

For these and all our failings, forgive us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

WE ARE FORGIVEN

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

COLLECT

A prayer to collect our thoughts into a prayer for today.

A READING FROM THE BIBLE

QUESTIONS FOR EVERYONE

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Do not stop them'.

We thank God for N and N who have come to be baptized today.

Christ loves them and welcomes them into his Church.

So I ask you all:

Will you support these children as they begin their journey of faith?

We will.

Will you help them to live and grow within God's family?

We will.

A QUESTION FOR PARENTS AND GODPARENTS

God knows each of us by name and we are his. Parents and godparents, you speak for N and N today. Will you pray for them, and help them to follow Christ?

We will.

THE DECISION

We all wander far from God and lose our way: Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home. In baptism we respond to his call.

Therefore I ask:

Do you turn away from sin?

I do.

Do you reject evil?

I do.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I do.

Do you trust in him as Lord?

I do.

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.

[The Priest then the Parents and Godparents sign the cross on the child's forehead.]

Do not be ashamed of Christ. You are his for ever.

Stand bravely with him against all the powers of evil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. **Amen**

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

We praise you, loving Father, for the gift of your Son Jesus.

He was baptized in the River Jordan, where your Spirit came upon him and revealed him as the Son you love. He sent his followers to baptize all who turn to him.

Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water, that those who are baptized in it may be cleansed in the water of life, and, filled with your Spirit, may know that they are loved as your children, safe in Christ for ever.

WE BELIEVE

Let us affirm, together with those who are 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 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 and trust 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.

THE BAPTISM

[The Priest Baptises the child]

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.

THE COMMISSION

Loving God, you call us into relationship with you and with one another. You give us friends and family to be with us on life's journey. Today we thank you for everyone gathered here at this baptism.

We pray for parents, godparents family and friends.

Bless them on their journey of faith, and encourage them in their prayers. Let their hearts overflow with love for You and for the children of every age they promised to support. In Jesus name, Amen.

A PRAYER TO BE SAID BY THE PARENTS

God our Father, in giving us this child you have shown us your love. Help us to be patient and understanding that our child may always be sure of our love, and grow up to be happy and responsible; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

A PRAYER TO BE SAID BY THE GODPARENTS

God of light and love, thank you for the joy of being a godparent, and the opportunities it gives us to journey with our godchildren as they grow in faith. Keep us faithful to the promises we have made to pray for them, and to encourage them to deepen their relationship with you. Amen

WE CONTINUE IN PRAYER

A time of prayer and intercession.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

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

GIVING OF A LIGHTED CANDLE

[A candle is lit from the Pascal candle and given to the family for the child.]

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.

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

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

Amen

THE SENDING OUT

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.