

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

After the sermon the candidates, parent, sponsors come to the chancel step

The Presentation and examination of the candidates

P. 301

The Celebrant says

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parent and Godparents:

I present Lucian Murphy to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

When all have been presented the Celebrant asks the parent and Godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parent and Godparents:

I will, with God's help.

Celebrant:

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parent and Godparents:

I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves, and of the parent and Godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children

Question: Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Question: Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Question: Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Question: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer: I do.

Question: Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer: I do.

Question: Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer: I do.

After all have been presented, and the congregation stands, the Celebrant says

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

People: We will.

The Celebrant then says these or similar words

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

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

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He 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,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: 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.

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

People: I will, with God's help.

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

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

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

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?

People: I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidate

The Celebrant then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

The Leader leads the following petitions

Leader: Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Open him heart to your grace and truth.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Keep him in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Send him into the world in witness to your love.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant:

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, God, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Baptism

Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying

Lucian Murphy I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Then the Bishop or Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross using Chrism and saying

Lucian Murphy, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. *Amen.*

When this action has been completed for all candidates, the Bishop or Priest, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over them, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. *Amen.*

When all have been baptized, the Celebrant says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.