

Decision

Therefore, parents and godparents, I ask you these questions:

Q: Do you reject evil influences and all rebellion against God?

A: **I reject them.**

Q: Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

A: **I renounce them.**

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

A: **I repent of them.**

Q: Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

A: **I turn to Christ.**

Q: Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

A: **I submit to Christ.**

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

A: **I come to Christ.**

Profession of Faith

Q: Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

A: **I believe and trust in him.**

Q: Do you believe and trust in Jesus Christ, God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

A: **I believe and trust in him.**

Q: 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?

A: **I believe and trust in him.**

Minister: This is the faith of the Church.

All: **This is our faith.**

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

Prayer over the Water

The ministers and candidates gather at the baptismal font where the priest blesses the water of baptism.

The Baptism

The priest pours water over each candidate:

Priest: N, I baptize you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Signing with the Cross

When all have been baptised the priest makes a cross on the forehead of each person, saying:

Priest: N, I sign you with the sign of the cross to show
that you are marked as Christ's own for ever.

Priest: N and N,
today God has touched you with his love
and given you a place among his people.

All: **God promises to be with you
in joy and in sorrow,
to be your guide in life,
and to bring you safely to heaven.**

Giving of a Lighted Candle

Minister: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world:

When all the newly baptized have received a candle, the minister says:

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

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

Welcome and Peace

Priest: God has welcomed you by baptism into his Church.

All: We welcome you into the Lord's Family.
We are members together of the Body of Christ;
We are children of the same heavenly Father;
We are inheritors together of the Kingdom of God.
We welcome you.

Please stand for the Peace

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you;

All: and also with you

Everyone is invited to exchange a greeting.

*Please leave the lighted candles in the holders provided.
You will be invited to collect your candle during the last hymn,
and at the end of the service, to walk to the back of the
church with the ministers.*

*Those baptised and the Godparents will be given cards to
commemorate this important day, after the service.*

The service resumes in the Sunday Service booklet.

*This service is reproduced according to the Canons of the Church of England, using
Common Worship, Services and Prayers for the Church of England (2000)*

ST PETER AND ST MARY MARCH HOLY BAPTISM (CHRISTENING)

Presentation of the Candidates

The minister addresses the whole congregation

Minister: In baptism God invites you on a life-long journey.

All: Together with all God's people
you must explore the way of Jesus
and grow in friendship with God,
in love for his people,
and in serving others.

Minister: Faith is the gift of God to his people.
In baptism the Lord is adding to our number
those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome *these children/candidates*
and uphold *them* in *their* new life in Christ?

All: With the help of God, we will.

The minister then says to the parents and godparents:

Parents and godparents, the Church receives *these children*
with joy. Today we are trusting God for *their* growth in faith.

Q: Will you pray for *them*,
draw *them* by your example into the community of faith
and walk with *them* in the way of Christ?

A: With the help of God, we will.

Minister: In baptism *these children* begin their journey
in faith. You speak for *them* today.

Q: Will you care for *them*,
and help *them* to take *their* place
within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

A: With the help of God, we will.