

Baptism and Confirmation outside of Holy Communion

Hymn

The Greeting

The bishop greets the people

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

There is one body and one Spirit.
There is one hope to which we were called;
one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
one God and Father of all.

Peace be with you
and also with you.

The Collect

*The bishop introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'.
On major festivals, the Collect of the Day may be used in place of the following Collect.*

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 in the unity of the Holy Spirit
now and for ever.
Amen.

First (and Second) Reading(s)

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Gospel Reading

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

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

Sermon

Normally, the confirming bishop will preach

Presentation of the Candidates

The candidates are presented to the congregation.

The bishop asks those who are candidates for baptism

Do you wish to be baptised?

I do.

The bishop asks the candidates for confirmation who have been baptised

Have you been baptised in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit?

I have.

The bishop asks all the candidates

Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?

I am.

Testimony by the candidates may follow. If there are to be testimonies, the bishops ask that these do not exceed three, and that they are very brief.

The bishop addresses the whole congregation

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 candidates* and uphold *them* in *their* life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

The Decision

A large candle may be lit. The bishop addresses all the candidates

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.

To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:

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.

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.

Signing with the Cross

The bishop makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate for baptism, saying

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

THE BISHOP MAY ANOINT THE CANDIDATES FOR BAPTISM AT THIS POINT WITH THE OIL OF CATECHUMENS. PLEASE GIVE ADVANCE NOTICE IF ANOINTING IS TO BE INCLUDED.

When all the candidates for baptism have been signed, the bishop says to them

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.
**Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ
against sin, the world and the devil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

The bishop says

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,
restore in you the image of his glory,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.
Amen.

Hymn

Prayer over the Water

The ministers and candidates for baptism and confirmation gather at the baptismal font.

The bishop stands before the water of baptism and says

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water
to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.
Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation.
Through water you led the children of Israel
from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land.
In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John
and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ,
to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life.

We thank you, Father, 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 baptize into his fellowship those who come to him in faith.

Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
they may be cleansed from sin and born again.
Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith
and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be all honour and glory, now and for ever.
Amen.

Profession of Faith

The bishop addresses the congregation

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess
together with *these candidates*
the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?
**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 and trust in 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.**

Baptism

*The bishop may address each candidate for baptism by name, saying
N, is this your faith?*

and candidates answer in their own words, or
This is my faith.

The bishop dips each candidate in water, or pours water on them, saying

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

***THE BISHOP MAY ANOINT THE NEWLY BAPTISED WITH THE OIL OF CHRISM.
PLEASE GIVE NOTICE IN ADVANCE IF ANOINTING IS TO BE INCLUDED.***

A minister may say

You have been clothed with Christ.
As many as are baptised into Christ have put on Christ.

The bishop says

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.
Amen.

The candidates for confirmation who have previously been baptised may come forward

to the font and the bishop may sprinkle them with water.

The bishop says

Almighty God,
we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith
with all who have been baptised into your name.
Keep us faithful to our baptism,
and so make us ready for that day
when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Hymn (*it is often convenient to divide a longer hymn between the procession to the font, and the procession back to the place of confirmation.*)

The bishop and the candidates gather at the place of confirmation.

Confirmation

The bishop stands before those who are to be confirmed, and says

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who has made heaven and earth.

Blessed be the name of the Lord
now and for ever. Amen.

The bishop extends his hands towards those to be confirmed and says

Almighty and ever-living God,
you have given these your servants new birth
in baptism by water and the Spirit,
and have forgiven them all their sins.
Let your Holy Spirit rest 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.

He then lays his hand on the head of each, saying

Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit.
Amen.

THE BISHOP MAY ANOINT THE NEWLY CONFIRMED WITH THE OIL OF CHRISM. PLEASE GIVE NOTICE IN ADVANCE IF ANOINTING IS TO BE INCLUDED.

The bishop invites the congregation to pray for all those on whom hands have been laid

**Defend, O Lord, these your servants with your heavenly grace,
that they may continue yours for ever,
and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more
until they come to your everlasting kingdom. Amen.**

Commission

The bishop may use this Commission

Those who are baptised are called to worship and serve God.

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

With the help of God, I will.

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

With the help of God, I will.

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

With the help of God, I will.

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

With the help of God, I will.

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society,
by prayer for the world and its leaders,
by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

With the help of God, I will.

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith,
that you may be rooted and grounded in love
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

Amen.

The Welcome and Peace

The bishop addresses the newly baptised

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
N and N, by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

All respond

**We welcome you in the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father;
we welcome you.**

The congregation may greet the newly baptised.

The bishop introduces the Peace

God has made us one in Christ.
He has set his seal upon us
and, as a pledge of what is to come,
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

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

A minister says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Prayers

The following form of Intercession is an example. It may be appropriate for candidates or representatives of the presenting parishes to lead the Intercessions.

As a royal priesthood, let us pray to the Father
through Christ who ever lives to intercede for us.

Reveal your kingdom among the nations;
may peace abound and justice flourish.
Especially for ...

Your name be hallowed.
Your kingdom come.

Send down upon us the gift of the Spirit
and renew your Church with power from on high.
Especially for ...

Your name be hallowed.
Your kingdom come.

Deliver the oppressed, strengthen the weak,
heal and restore your creation.
Especially for ...

Your name be hallowed.
Your kingdom come.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the Church on earth,
we join our prayers with all the saints in glory.
Your name be hallowed.

Your kingdom come.

The Lord's Prayer

In our Saviour's presence, and as he taught, so we pray

**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.**

The Blessing

The bishop says

The God of all grace,
who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus,
establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Giving of a Lighted Candle

The bishop or another person may give all candidates a lighted candle. These may be lit from the candle used at the Decision.

When all have received a candle, the bishop says

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.**

The Dismissal

Go in the light and peace of Christ.
All Thanks be to God.

The bishop leads the newly baptised and confirmed through the church.

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