

LITURGY OF BAPTISM FOR CHILDREN

RECEPTION OF THE CHILD AT THE DOOR OF THE CHURCH

Priest: What name do you give your child?

Priest: What do you ask of God's Church?

Parents: Baptism

Priest: You have asked to have your child baptised. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us by loving God and our neighbour. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?

Parents: We do

Priest: (to the godparents) - Are you ready to help the parents of this child in their duty as Christian parents.

Godparents: We are.

Priest: N.N. The Church of God welcomes you with great joy etc. etc. I now trace the sign of the cross on your forehead and invite your parents and godparents to do the same.

Hymn whilst processing up the Church (optional)

CELEBRATION OF GOD'S WORD

The Gospel is read by the priest unless you want it to be preceded by other scriptural readings. If you have a psalm between the readings it can be sung.

Short Homily

Period of silence

The Bidding Prayers read by a lay person

Invocation of the Saints. (by the priest) A Saint's name should be chosen for one of the baby's forenames e.g. St Catherine, St Theresa, St Paul, St Patrick etc. etc.

EXORCISISM AND ANOINTING

Prayer of exorcism

Anointing on the breast with the oil of catechumens.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

Blessing of the water

Renunciation of sin and profession of faith. (The answer to the six questions is 'I do' by the parents and godparents).

Baptism of baby

Anointing with Sacred Chrism on the crown of the baby's head

Clothing with the white garment

Presentation of the lighted candle to parent

CONCLUSION OF THE RITE

The Our Father

Blessing of the mother

Blessing of the Father

Blessing of everyone present.

Final hymn (optional)