

Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion

An order of service for:

The baptism and confirmation of adults

The baptism of families and confirmation of adults

The baptism of adults

The baptism of families

The baptism of children

The confirmation of those already baptized

If either the baptism of children or the confirmation of those already baptized is to be administered on its own, then the separate services at sections 42 and 64 respectively should be used.

NOTES

- 1 **Baptism without Confirmation** Adults who are to be baptized should normally be confirmed at the same service; but when they are to be baptized without confirmation, sections 23-26 are omitted.
- 2 **Family Baptism** When children who are not old enough to answer for themselves are to be baptized at the same time as their parents, the parents answer the questions for themselves and for their children, saying
We turn to Christ.
We repent of our sins.
We renounce evil.
We believe and trust in him.
When children who are old enough to respond are baptized, the parents and godparents answer the questions, and, at the discretion of the priest, the children also may answer them. When children and their parents are baptized on the same occasion, it is fitting that the children are baptized immediately after their own parents.
- 3 **The Signing with the Cross** The signing with the cross may take place either at section 14 or at section 21. The sign of the cross may be made in oil blessed for this purpose.
- 4 **The Giving of a Candle** A lighted candle, which may be the paschal candle, may be made ready so that other candles may be lighted from it.
- 5 **The Use of the Candidate's Name** At the signing with the cross and the giving of a candle, the Bishop or other minister may address the candidate by name.
- 6 **The People's Responses** At the signing with the cross it is sufficient if the people join in and say their part (sections 14 and 21) once only, when all have been signed; and if a candle is given to those who have been baptized, it is sufficient if the people join in and say their part (section 22) once only, when all have received a candle.

- 7 **Anointing with Oil** At section 25 the Bishop may anoint candidates with oil which he has previously blessed for this purpose.
- 8 **Delegation by the Bishop** Where it is prescribed that anything is to be said or done by the Bishop, he may delegate it to other ministers; but only the Bishop is to confirm (sections 23-25).
- 9 **Readings** The Bishop may direct readings to be used other than those appointed in this order, subject to the provisions of Rule 1b in the *Rules to Order the Service*.
- 10 **The Ordering of the Service** When candidates for confirmation are presented at the same service as candidates for both baptism and confirmation, the precise ordering of the service and the place of baptism should be determined by consultation between the Bishop and the parish priest.
- 11 **The Administration of Baptism** A threefold administration of water (whether by dipping or pouring) is a very ancient practice of the Church and is commended as testifying to the faith of the Trinity in which candidates are baptized. Nevertheless, a single administration is also lawful and valid.
- 12 **The Renewal of Baptismal Vows** At the discretion of the Bishop, the renewal of baptismal vows by members of the congregation may take place after section 10 instead of at section 28.

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THE PREPARATION

- 1 At the entry of the ministers this, or another APPROPRIATE SENTENCE, may be used:

The Lord is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation. *Psalm 118.14*

and A HYMN or A CANTICLE may be sung.

- 2 Bishop The Lord be with you
All and also with you.
- 3 If THE PRAYERS OF PENITENCE (Holy Communion Rite A, sections 5-8) are to be used, they follow here.
- 4 Bishop 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 that 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 and the
Holy Spirit,
one God now and for ever. Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

- 5 Sit
If AN OLD TESTAMENT READING is to be read, one of the following may be chosen (see pp. 262-268).

