

## PRAYERS

Faithful and loving God, bless those who care for *these children* and grant them your gifts of love, wisdom and faith. Pour upon them your healing and reconciling love, and protect their home from all evil. Fill them with the light of your presence and establish them in the joy of your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The parents may say*

**God our father, in giving us this child you have shown us your love. Help us to be patient and understanding that our child may always be sure of our love, and grow up to be happy and responsible; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

God of grace and life, in your love you have given us a place among your people; keep us faithful to our baptism, and prepare us for that glorious day when the whole creation will be made perfect in your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Other prayers may be said*

## LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## GIVING OF A LIGHTED CANDLE

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.

*All* **Shine as a light in the world  
To the glory of God the Father.**

## THE BLESSING

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 upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

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# HOLY BAPTISM IN THE TRING TEAM PARISH

*All Saints - Long Marston, St. Cross - Wilstone,  
St. John the Baptist - Aldbury, St. Mary - Puttenham,  
St. Peter & St. Paul - Tring*

## WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

*All* **and also with you.**

At our Lord's baptism in the river Jordan God showed himself to all. The Father spoke from heaven, the Spirit descended as a dove and Jesus was anointed with power from on high. Here is the door of faith through which we enter the kingdom of heaven. As children of God, we are adopted as his sons and daughters, and called to proclaim the wonders of him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

## PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

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 president addresses the parents godparents and sponsors*

Will you pray for *N*, will you walk with them on their spiritual journey and help them to come to maturity in faith?

**With the help of God, we will.**

PARENTS AND GODPARENTS, the Church receives *these children* with joy. Today we are trusting God for their growth in faith. Will you pray for *them*, draw *them* by your example into the community of faith and walk with *them* in the way of Christ?

**With the help of God, we will.**

In baptism *these children* begin their journey in faith. You speak for *them* today. Will you care for *them*, and help *them* to take their place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

**With the help of God, we will.**

## BIBLE READING

*At the end of the reading the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord

*All* **Thanks be to God**

## THE DECISION

*A large candle may be lit. The president addresses the candidates directly, or through their parents, godparents and sponsors.*

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvelous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask you these questions which you must answer for yourselves as well as for *this child*:

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 come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?  
**I come to Christ.**

## SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross. Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

*All* **Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the temptations of the world and all that is evil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

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.

*All* **Amen.**

## PRAYER OVER THE WATER

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

*All* 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.

*All* **Amen**

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us affirm, together our common faith.

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

*All* **I believe and trust in him.**

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

*All* **I believe and trust in him.**

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?

*All* **I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

*All* **This is our faith.  
We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

## BAPTISM

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

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.**

## COMMISSION

*The Christian community, the parents and the godparents are reminded of their duty to pray for the newly baptised.*

We have brought *these children* to baptism knowing that Jesus died and rose again for *them* and trusting in the promise that God hears and answers prayer. We have prayed that in Jesus Christ *they* will know the forgiveness of *their* sins and the new life of the Spirit.

As *they* grow up, *they* will need the help and encouragement of the Christian community, so that *they* may learn to know God in public worship and private prayer, follow Jesus Christ in the life of faith, serve *their* neighbour after the example of Christ, and in due course come to confirmation.

As part of the Church of Christ, we all have a duty to support *them* by prayer, example and teaching. As *their* parents and godparents, you have the prime responsibility for guiding and helping *them* in *their* early years. This is a demanding task for which you will need the help and grace of God. Therefore let us now pray for grace in guiding *these children* in the way of faith.