**Baptism and Confirmation within a celebration of Holy Communion**

*(Please prepare a front cover with venue, time, date and picture)*

Welcome by Incumbent or Area Dean

Preparation

At the entry of the ministers, a hymn may be sung.

The Greeting

The bishop greets the people

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

[ *From Easter Day to Pentecost only this acclamation follows*

Alleluia, Christ is risen.

 **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.** ]

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 bishop informally welcomes the people*

The Collect

This Collect is normally used:

Heavenly Father,
by the power of your Holy Spirit
you give 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.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

A reading from the Old or New Testament. At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

A hymn may be sung between the readings.

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**

**The baptisms and confirmations**

**Presentation of the Candidates**

*The candidates may be presented to the congregation. Where appropriate, they may be presented by their godparents or sponsors, or by those who have prepared them for confirmation.*

*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 already been baptised*

 Have you been baptized 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**.

*The bishop asks 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 themin theirlife in Christ?

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

The Decision

*The Bishop addresses 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 the cross.

 Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

All **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**.

 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**.

**Hymn/Song**

**Prayer over the Water**

*The ministers and candidates for baptism (together with candidates for confirmation, affirmation of baptismal faith and reception into the communion of the Church of England) gather at the baptismal font.*

 *The bishop stands before the water of baptism and says these words or uses optional seasonal and responsive forms*

 Praise God who made heaven and earth,

All **who keeps his promise for ever**.

 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise**.

 Loving Father,
we thank you for your servant Moses,
who led your people through the waters of the Red Sea
to freedom in the Promised Land.
We thank you for your Son Jesus,
who has passed through the deep waters of death
and opened for all the way of salvation.
Now send your Spirit,
that those who are washed in this water
may die with Christ and rise with him,
to find true freedom as your children,

alive in Christ for ever.

*All* **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?

All **I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

 **creator of heaven and earth.**

 Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

All **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?

All **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.**

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

**Baptism**

 *N*, I baptize you

 in the name of the Father, and of the Son,

 and of the Holy Spirit.

All **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.

All **Amen**.

*The candidates for confirmation who have previously been baptized (together with those affirming their baptismal faith or seeking reception) may come forward to the font and the bishop may sprinkle them.*

*Then the bishop says*

 Almighty God,

 we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith

 with all who have been baptized 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.

*All* **Amen.**

**Hymn/Song**

**Confirmation**

*The bishop and candidates gather at the place of confirmation, and stand in a semi-circle around the bishop.*

*A hymn, chant or litany may be used.*

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

 Our help is in the name of the Lord

All **who has made heaven and earth.**

 Blessed be the name of the Lord

All **now and for ever.  Amen.**

*The bishop extends his/her 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.

All **Amen**.

*The bishop addresses each candidate by name and anoints them with oil as s/he says*

 *N*, God has called you by name and made you his own.

*S/He then lays his/her hand on the head of each, saying*

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

All **Amen**.

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

All **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.**

*The bishop may address the newly baptized*

**The Welcome and Peace**

 There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:

 *N*, by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

All **We welcome you in the fellowship of faith;**

 **we are children of the same heavenly Father;**

 **we welcome you.**

**The Peace**

*The bishop introduces the Peace in these or other suitable words.*

 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

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

 Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

**Offertory Hymn**

The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

**Preparation of the Table**

**Taking of the Bread and Wine**

**The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

 It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right,

it is our duty and our joy,

at all times and in all places

to give you thanks and praise,

holy Father, heavenly King,

almighty and eternal God,

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

*This short Proper Preface is normally used or another appropriate for the season may be used*

And now we give you thanks
because by water and the Holy Spirit
you have made us a holy people in Jesus Christ our Lord,
you raise us to new life in him
and renew in us the image of your glory.

Therefore with angels and archangels,

and with all the company of heaven,

we proclaim your great and glorious name,

for ever praising you and singing:

 **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,

through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,

and as we follow his example and obey his command,

grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit

these gifts of bread and wine

may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,

took bread and gave you thanks;

he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper

he took the cup and gave you thanks;

he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you;

this is my blood of the new covenant,

which is shed for you and for many

for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it,

in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,

we remember his offering of himself

made once for all upon the cross;

we proclaim his mighty resurrection

and glorious ascension;

we look for the coming of your kingdom,

and with this bread and this cup

we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith

**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,

this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,

and as we eat and drink these holy gifts

in the presence of your divine majesty,

renew us by your Spirit,

inspire us with your love

and unite us in the body of your Son,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,

we worship you, Father almighty,

in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power**

**be yours for ever and ever.
Amen**

*We kneel or sit*

**The Lord’s Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, 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.

**Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

*The Angus Dei may be used*

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.

**Giving of Communion**

The bishop says the invitation to communion

Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink
in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

The bishop and people receive communion.

Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies

Amen.

Any consecrated bread and wine which is not required for purposes of communion is consumed at the end of the distribution or after the service.

**Prayer after Communion**

Silence is kept. The bishop prays this prayer

God of mercy,

by whose grace alone we are accepted

and equipped for your service:

stir up in us the gifts of your Holy Spirit

and make us worthy of our calling;

that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit

in love and joy and peace;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

We thank you, Lord,

that you have fed us in this sacrament,

united us with Christ,

and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet

prepared for all peoples.

**Amen.**

The Sending Out

**The Blessing**

*The bishop uses this or a seasonal 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.

All **Amen**.

**Giving of a Lighted Candle**

A hymn may be sung during which the bishop gives each of the newly baptised and confirmed a lighted candle (usually lit from the Paschal candle).

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.

All **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 and out into the world (weather permitting). Applause from the congregation can accompany this.*

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