

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

### Words of Welcome and Institution

When the people of Israel were first given guidance as to how to bring up families, they were told:

*Remember this – the Lord, God alone is your God. Love God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. Teach this to your children. Repeat them in your home and when you are away. (Deut. 6)*

This morning we welcome \_\_\_\_\_ the parents of \_\_\_\_\_ and we join them in giving thanks for the gift of their child. We meet on this special day to celebrate the birth and naming of this child, to witness to the solemn undertakings for him/her by his/her parents, and to ask God's blessing on this family.

When Jesus took a child in his arms and blessed the child, he said to his disciples "for of such is the kingdom of God"

### Prayer

God our creator, in giving us this child you show us again of your great love for creation. We thank you for this child, for the wonder of his/her life, for his/her parents, and for the privilege we have as witnesses to these sacred moments. In Christ's name, Amen

### Questions

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ you have brought your child to be welcomed into the company of Christ's people, what name(s) have you chosen for her/him?

Will you care for this child, feed, clothe, and befriend him/her, listen to and play with him/her, keep him/her safe, and daily share your heart with him/her?

Will you help your child learn, by the example of your lives, to be just, kind, and humble in his/her relationship with others?

Will you respect, encourage, and guide him/her, and will you put his/her true needs before your own pleasure?

Will you do your best to order your lives in such a way that your child will be surrounded by love and goodness?

Do you now dedicate your child and re-dedicate yourselves to God, and with God's help provide a Christian home for him/her; to pray with him/her and for him/her; teaching him/her about Jesus Christ?

## **Godparents**

Will you be a continuing friend to this child and be ready to help him/her and his/her parents in times of special need?

Will you pray for this child and hi/her parents and be willing when appropriate, to share your own religious journey with him/her?

May you all keep these promises for the sake of this child and every child with whom you may come in contact.

## **Baptism**

Your child's full name? \_\_\_\_\_ I baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Amen

## **Prayer and Blessing**

Author of love, loving God, accept the thanksgiving of these parents and our congregation. May \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_'s spirits be lifted up in gratitude for these moments. Give them wisdom, tenderness, and patience as they raise their child as one loved by You.

Little \_\_\_\_\_ May God's peace be with you wherever life takes you; God's light guide you wherever you may go; God's goodness fill you and help you to grow.

Amen

An adaptation by TMR of a 1998 Celtic Infant Dedication Service