

**ESGOBAETH ABERTAWE AC ABERHONDDU
THE DIOCESE OF SWANSEA AND BRECON**



An Order for the Public Baptism of Infants

**St Hilary's and St Martins's Church
in the Parish of Killay**

1. THE GATHERING

The minister welcomes the family and speaks to them of the special joy of this occasion.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Grace and peace be with you
and keep you in the love of Christ.

Or, in Eastertide

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The minister may introduce the service with the following.

Our Lord Jesus Christ commanded, ‘Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.’
Thanks be to God.

The minister then addresses the parents
What do you ask of the Church of God? **We**
ask that this child may be baptized.

What name have you given your child?
The parents tell the minister the child’s name.

The minister continues

The baptism of its new members is an occasion of great joy for the Christian Church. By water and the Spirit, we are reborn as God’s children, and are made followers of Christ, members of his body, the Church, and inheritors of the kingdom of heaven. Will you accept these things for *N*?
We will.

In asking for *N* to be baptized, you are accepting the responsibility of bringing *him/her* up as a Christian. In caring for *him/her*, will you help *him/her* to keep God's commandments by loving God and neighbour as Christ has taught us? Will you pray for *him/her*, and draw *him/her* by your own example into the community of faith?

With the help of God, we will.

The minister addresses the godparents

Will you support and help *N*'s parents in doing these things?

With the help of God, we will.

The minister addresses the whole congregation

Will you welcome *N* and do your best to uphold *him/her* in *his/her* life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

The following Collect may be used:

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 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 and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

2. THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A short reading may be used.



3. The Liturgy of Baptism

The Decision

The minister addresses the parents and godparents

You have declared your wish for *N* to be baptized. We therefore now invite you to respond to Christ's call.

Do you turn to Christ? I
turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins? I
repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil? I
renounce evil.

Almighty Father,
you sent your Son into the world
to destroy the powers of darkness.
Hear our prayer for *these children*:
deliver *them* from evil,
give *them* light and joy
and fill *them* with your Holy Spirit,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

If the oil of catechumens is used, each child who is to be baptized may be anointed with it either at this point or while being signed with the cross.



4. The Signing with the Cross

The minister continues

By his cross and precious blood, our Lord Jesus Christ has redeemed the world. He has told us that, if any want to become his followers, they must deny themselves, take up their cross and follow him day by day.

The sign of the cross is made on the forehead of each child who is to be baptized.

N, I sign you with the sign of the cross and claim you for our Saviour Jesus Christ.

When all the children to be baptized have been signed with the cross, the minister continues:

Never be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

All **Fight valiantly against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life. Amen.**

5. The Profession of Faith

At the font, the minister addresses the parents and godparents:

We invite you now to profess the Christian faith.

Do you believe in God the Father, the Creator of all?

I believe and trust in God the Father.

Do you believe in his Son Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world?

I believe and trust in God the Son.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life?

I believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit.

The minister addresses the congregation

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

6. The Blessing of the Baptismal Water

Praise God who made heaven and earth:
who keeps his promise for ever.

Heavenly Father, we thank you
for your love in creation
and for the gift of water
to sustain, cleanse and refresh all living creatures.

We thank you for the covenant you made
with your people of old:
you led them through the sea from slavery to freedom.

We thank you that, in the waters of the Jordan,
your Son Jesus was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By his death on the cross and his resurrection,
he has brought us forgiveness and set us free.

We thank you that in the waters of baptism
you cleanse us from sin,
renew us by your Spirit
and raise us to new life.

Sanctify this water so that your children who are washed in it
may be made one with Christ.
In fulfillment of your promise,
anoint them with your Holy Spirit,
bring them to new birth in the family of your Church
and give them a share in your kingdom:
through Jesus Christ our Lord
whom, by the power of the Spirit,
you raised to live with you for ever and ever.
Amen.

7. The Baptism

The minister baptizes each child, saying:

N, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The minister may anoint each child on the crown of the head with chrism, saying:

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace. As Christ was anointed priest, prophet and king, may you daily be conformed to his image.

Amen.

8. The Giving of the Light

The minister or a member of the congregation may give a lighted candle to each of the newly baptized.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

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

9. The Peace

An appropriate sentence of Scripture may be read.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

A sign of peace may be exchanged.



10. Prayers

As our Saviour taught us, we boldly pray:

**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.**

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.**

11. The Sending Out

One of the following prayers may be used.

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.**

Almighty God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the victory, give you joy and peace in believing ...

[and] the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.