

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Reception of the Child

The Celebrant addresses the parents:

Celebrant: What name do you give your child?

Parents: **Sebastian Francois Benedict**

Celebrant: What do you ask of God's Church for Sebastian?

Parents: **Baptism.**

The Celebrant addresses the parents:

Celebrant: You have asked to have your child baptised. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him in the practise of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbour. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?

Parents: **We do.**

Then the Celebrant addresses the godparents:

Celebrant: Are you ready to help the parents of this child in their duty as Christian parents?

Godparents: **We are.**

Celebrant: Sebastian, the Christian community welcomes you with great joy.
In its name I claim you for Christ our Saviour by the sign

of the cross. I now trace the cross on your forehead, and invite your parents and godparents to do the same.

The Celebrant, Parents and Godparents trace the sign of the Cross on the baby's forehead.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading read by Katherine Badri

Ezekiel 36:24-28

For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.

Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh.

And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Responsorial Psalm read by Olimpia Fitzgerald, Sabina Micaglio, Stephen Wolf and Jessica Wyatt

Psalm 22:1-6

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.

R. The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and staff;
with these you give me comfort.

R. The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

R. The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

R. The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

Alleluia

Gospel

Mark 10:13–16.

And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them.

But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

Matthew 11:35

At that time Jesus declared, I thank you Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children.

Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: My brothers and sisters, let us ask our Lord Jesus Christ to look lovingly on this child who is to be baptized, on his parents and godparents, and on all the baptized.

Celebrant: By the mystery of your death and resurrection, bathe this child in light, give him the new life of baptism and welcome him into your Holy Church. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Through baptism and confirmation, make him your faithful follower and a witness to your gospel. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Lead him by a holy life to the joys of God's kingdom. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Make the lives of his parents and godparents examples of faith to inspire this child. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Keep his family always in your love. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Renew the grace of our baptism in each one of us. Lord hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Invitation to all present to invoke the saints.

Celebrant: Holy Mary, Mother of God

All: Pray for us.

Celebrant: Saint John the Baptist.

All: Pray for us.

Celebrant: Saint Joseph.

All: Pray for us.

Celebrant: Saint Peter and Saint Paul.

All: Pray for us.

Celebrant: All holy men and women.

All: **Pray for us.**

Prayer of Exorcism & Anointing before Baptism

Celebrant: Almighty and ever-living God, you sent your only Son into the world to cast out the power of Satan, the spirit of evil, to deliver us from the kingdom of darkness, and bring us into the splendour of your kingdom of light. We pray for this child: set him free from original sin, make him a temple of your glory, and send your Holy Spirit to dwell within him. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen**

We anoint you with the oil of salvation in the name of Christ our Saviour; may he strengthen you with his power, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Celebrant anoints the baby on the breast with the Oil of Catechumens.

Celebration of Baptism

Blessing and Invocation over Baptismal Water

All: **Amen.**

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

Celebrant: (to Parents and Godparents) Do you reject Satan?

Parents & Godparents: **I do.**

Celebrant: And all his works?

Parents & Godparents: **I do.**

Celebrant: And all his empty promises?

Parents & Godparents: **I do.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in the God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth?

Parents & Godparents: **I do.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died and was buried, rose from the dead and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

Parents & Godparents: **I do.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting?

Parents & Godparents: **I do.**

Celebrant: This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: **Amen**

The celebrant invites the family to the font and questions the parents and godparents:

Celebrant: Is it your will that Sebastian be baptised in the faith of the Church, which we have all professed with you?

Parents and Godparents: **It is.**

Celebrant: Sebastian, I baptise you in the name of the Father – and of the Son – and of the Holy Spirit.

Anointing with Chrism

Celebrant: God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into his holy people. He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation. As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet, and King, so may you live always as a member of his body, sharing everlasting life.

All: **Amen.**

Then the celebrant anoints the child on the crown of the head with the sacred chrism.

Clothing with the White Garment

Celebrant: Sebastian you have become a new creation, and have clothed yourself in Christ. See in this white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity. With your family and friends to help you by word and example, bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven.

All: **Amen.**

The white garment is put on the child.

The Lighted Candle

Mario Moretti lights Sebastian's candle from the Easter Candle.

Celebrant: Receive the light of Christ. Parents and Godparents, this light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. This child of yours has been enlightened by Christ. He is to walk always as a child of the light. May he keep the flame of faith alive in his heart. When the Lord comes, may he go out to meet him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom.

The Ephphetha (Prayer over Ears & Mouth)

The celebrant touches the ears and mouth of the child with his thumb, saying:

Celebrant: The Lord Jesus made the deaf hear and the dumb speak. May he soon touch your ears to receive his word, and your mouth to proclaim his faith, to the praise and glory of God the Father.

All: **Amen.**

Conclusion of the Rite

Celebrant: Dearly beloved, this child has been reborn in baptism. He is now called the child of God, for so indeed he is. In confirmation he will receive the fullness of God's Spirit. In holy communion he will share the banquet of Christ's sacrifice, calling God his Father in the midst of the Church. In the name of this child, in the Spirit of our common sonship, let us pray together in the words our Lord has given us:

All:

**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.
Amen.**

Blessing and Dismissal

The celebrant first blesses the mother, then the father, and lastly the entire assembly

Celebrant: God the Father, through his Son, the Virgin Mary's child, has brought joy to all Christian mothers, as they see the hope of eternal life shine on their children. May he bless the mother of this child. She now thanks God for the gift of her child. May she be one with her in thanking God for ever in heaven, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

Celebrant: God is the giver of all life, human and divine. May he bless the father of this child. As parents they will be the first teachers of their child in the ways of faith. May they be also the best of teachers, bearing witness to the faith by what they say and do, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: I bless the Godparents and all present here today who represent the believing community to which this child now belongs. May your friendship and prayers be a loving support to Cassian throughout life.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: May almighty God, the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, bless you and remain with you forever.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: Go in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

