



# The Baptism

*The candidates for baptism, along with their godparents, sponsors and family, move to the font, followed by the rest of the congregation.*

## **Presentation of the Candidates**

*The minister addresses Alison, Aidan's godparents and Ethan's sponsors:*

Alison, godparents and sponsors, the Church receives Ethan and Aidan with joy. Today we are trusting God for their growth in faith, but they will need your help and encouragement too. Will you read to them the stories of the Christian faith?

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

As Ethan and Aidan begin their journey of faith, will you promise faithfully to pray for them regularly?

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

Will you help Ethan and Aidan take their place within Christ's church by keeping in touch with our life and worship here at All Hallows?

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

## **Decision**

*The Easter candle is lit. The minister again addresses Alison, Aidan's godparents and Ethan's sponsors:*

Alison, godparents and sponsors: 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 renounce all evil influences and powers that rebel against God?

***I renounce all evil.***

Do you trust in Christ's victory which brings forgiveness, freedom and life?

***In faith I turn to Christ, my way, my truth, my life.***

*The minister addresses Ethan:*

Ethan, do you say no to all that is evil and against God?

***I say no to all evil.***

Do you trust in Jesus Christ?

***I trust in Jesus Christ, my way, my truth, my life.***

## **Signing with the Cross**

*The minister makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate with holy oil, 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 and every kind of evil,  
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

## **Prayer over the Water**

*Water is poured into the font.*

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ  
was baptized in the river Jordan:  
We thank you for the gift of water  
to cleanse us and revive us.

Saving God,  
**give us life.**

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea  
you led your people out of slavery  
to freedom in the promised land.

Saving God,  
**give us life.**

We thank you that through the deep waters of death  
you brought your Son and raised him to life in triumph.

Saving God,  
**give us life.**

Bless this water, that your servants who are washed in it  
may be made one with Christ  
in his death and in his resurrection.

Saving God,  
**give us life.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon your servants.  
Bring them to new birth in the household of faith  
And raise them with Christ to full and eternal life;  
To whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
Be all honour and glory, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## **Profession of Faith**

*The minister says to the whole congregation:*

Brothers and sisters, let us,  
together with these who are being baptized,  
affirm the faith of the Church.

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

**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?

**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?

**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

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

## **'People of the Way'**

The prophet Micah said:

God has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does  
God require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

**This is the path we seek to walk.**

Jesus said:

The first commandment is 'The Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these.

**This is the way we seek to live.**

## **Baptism**

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

N, I baptise 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.**

May God's joy be in your heart  
and God's love surround your living.  
Each day and night, and wherever you roam,  
may you know God's presence,  
in growing and learning, in joy and sorrow,  
in friendship, in solitude, in beginnings and endings.  
May God keep you and bless you  
all the days of your life.

**Amen.**

## **The Welcome**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

Ethan and Aidan:

by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;  
we are children of the same heavenly father:  
Welcome, Ethan! Welcome, Aidan!**

## **The Peace**

We are all one in the family of Christ Jesus,  
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

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*At the end of the service, before the final hymn, each of  
the newly baptized receives a lighted candle, symbol of  
Jesus the light of the world.*