

THE ORDER FOR
THE ADMINISTRATION OF
BAPTISM TO INFANTS



- ¶ The Minister of every Parish ought often to admonish the People that they neglect not the duty of presenting their Children for the Sacrament of Baptism, which should be administered on Sundays, and in the Church; but may, at the Minister's discretion, be administered on other days, and in other places.
- ¶ When Baptism is administered at a stated Service, it should be immediately after the second Lesson.
- ¶ Infants to be baptized must be presented at the Font by their Parents when practicable, and one, at least, of the Persons presenting must be a Communicant of this or of some other Evangelical Church.
- ¶ The Minister, standing at the Font, shall say as follows, the People also standing throughout:

Hear the words of the Gospel, written by St. Mark, in the tenth Chapter, at the thirteenth Verse:

THEY brought young children to Christ, 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.

¶ Then shall the Minister make this EXHORTATION:

BELOVED, ye hear in this Gospel the words of our Saviour Christ, that he commanded the children to be brought unto him; how he blamed those who would have kept them from him; how he exhorteth all men to follow their innocency. Ye perceive how, by his outward gesture and deed, he declared his good will toward them, for he embraced them in his arms, he laid his hands upon them, and blessed them. Doubt ye not, therefore, but earnestly believe, that he who now sitteth at the right hand of the Majesty on high, is the same tender Saviour who, in the days of his sojourning upon earth, so lovingly regarded little children.

Wherefore, being thus persuaded of the good will of our Saviour toward all infants; and not doubting that he favorably alloweth the dedication of *this child* unto him; let us faithfully and devoutly call upon him in *his* behalf, and say,

¶ Then shall the Minister and the People say,

ALMIGHTY and immortal God, the aid of all who need, the helper of all who flee to thee for succor, the life of those who believe, and the resurrection of the dead; We call upon thee for *this child*, now to be baptized: of thy bounteous mercy, we beseech thee to receive *him*, grant unto *him* the forgiveness of *his* sins, and so fill *him* with thy Holy Spirit that *he* may grow in grace and godliness; and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, may continue thine for ever; through Jesus Christ our LORD. Amen.

¶ Then shall the Minister say,

DEARLY beloved, ye have brought *this child* here to be baptized; ye have prayed that our heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ our LORD, would vouchsafe to receive *him*, to release *him* from *his* sins, to sanctify *him* with the Holy Ghost, to give *him* the kingdom of heaven, and everlasting life:

I ask, therefore,

DO ye solemnly believe all the Articles of the Christian Faith, as contained in the Apostles' Creed; and do ye acknowledge the obligation, as far as in you lies, to provide that *this child* be brought up in the nurture and admonition of the LORD, that *he* be diligently instructed in the Holy Scriptures, and that *he* be taught the Creed, the LORD'S Prayer, the Ten Commandments, and all other things which a Christian ought to know and believe to his soul's health?

Answer. We do.

¶ Then shall the Minister say,

O MERCIFUL God, grant that the old Adam in *this child* may be so buried, that the new man may be raised up in *him*. *Amen.*

Grant that all sinful affections may die in *him*, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *him*. *Amen.*

Grant that *he* may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph against the devil, the world, and the flesh. *Amen.*

Grant that all who are dedicated to thee in Baptism, may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded, through thy

mercy, O blessed LORD God, who dost live and govern all things, world without end. *Amen.*

Almighty, everliving God, whose most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ gave commandment to his disciples, that they should go teach all nations, and baptize them In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; Regard, we beseech thee, our supplications, and grant that *this child* may receive the fulness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful children; through Jesus Christ our LORD. *Amen.*

¶ Then shall the Minister take the Child into his hands, and say,

Name this child.

¶ And then, naming it accordingly, he shall sprinkle or pour water upon it (or else, shall dip it in the water discreetly), saying,

N I BAPTIZE thee In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

¶ Then shall the Minister say,

WE receive this child into the congregation of Christ's Flock;* and pray that hereafter *he* shall not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified; but manfully fight under his banner, against sin, the world, and the devil; and continue Christ's faithful soldier and servant unto *his* life's end. *Amen.*

¶ Then shall be said by the Parents, with the Minister,

WE yield thee humble thanks, O heavenly Father, that thou hast inclined us to dedicate *this child* to thee in baptism; and we

* Here the Minister may make the sign of the cross upon the child's forehead, if it be desired, and add, "*and do sign him with the sign of the cross, and pray,*" &c.

humbly pray that thy grace may enable us to bring *him* up in the nurture and admonition of the LORD; through Jesus Christ thy Son, our Saviour. *Amen.*

¶ Then shall the Minister say,

FORASMUCH as ye have promised to bring up *this child* in the nurture and admonition of the LORD, I exhort you to have always in remembrance what a solemn obligation ye have here assumed. Ye are, therefore, to take care that *this child* be virtuously brought up to lead a godly and a Christian life; remembering always, that Baptism doth represent unto us our profession, which is, to follow the example of our Saviour Christ, and to be made like unto him, that, as he died and rose again for us, so should we, who are baptized, die from sin, and rise again unto righteousness, continually mortifying all our evil and corrupt affections, and daily proceeding in all virtue and godliness of living.

THE blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

¶ In the private ministration of Baptism, this Service may be used, or any portion of it, as the Minister may think best, provided that the prayer beginning with, "Almighty, everliving God," &c., to the end of the Formula, be used.

