

## All Saints Paston Baptism Service

### *Welcome & Notices*

Today we are celebrating how God has touched *N* with the gift of a child. In baptism God invites the parents and child as a family, with others, to a life long journey with Him, exploring the way of Jesus, growing in faith, and serving others. We rejoice today with *N* as they thank God for the gift of a child and now bring their child for baptism. So we pray for them: **God our Creator, we thank you for the wonder of life and for the richness of human love. As Jesus knew love and discipline within a human family, may this family grow in strength and wisdom. As Mary and Joseph knew the joys and pains of family life, give this family your grace and love. Amen**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: **one God and Father of all**

*(The family come out to the front of church)*

*(The parents pray)* **Lord God thank you for the gift of my child and for all the joy they bring. Help me to be faithful in the promises I will now make, so that I may be a good example of Christian living to them. Amen**

*(To the parents)* The Church receives your child with joy. Today we are trusting God for their growth in faith. Will you pray for your child, draw them by your example into the community of faith and walk with them in the way of Christ? **With the help of God, I will.**

We all wander far from God and lose our way. Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home. In baptism we respond to his call. Therefore I ask:

Do you turn away from sin? **I do**

Do you reject evil? **I do**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour? **I do**

Do you trust in Christ as Lord? **I do**

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross. *(The parents and Minister make the sign of the cross on the child's forehead)* Do not be ashamed of Christ. You are his for ever. **Stand bravely with him against all the**

**powers of evil and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. **Amen.**

*(The family return to their seats)*

Bible Reading *(One is read)*

*(Matthew 28: 16 – 20):* Jesus' disciples went to a hill in Galilee, where Jesus had told them to meet him. Jesus came to them and said: "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Go to the nations and make them my disciples. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to do everything I have said. And I will be with you always."

*(Mark 10: 13 – 16)* People were bringing children to Jesus to bless. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was cross and said: "Let the children come to me; do not stop them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as them. I tell you that anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a child will never enter it." Then Jesus blessed each child in turn.

Talk

*(The godparents come out to the front)*

*(They pray)* **Lord God, I thank you that I have been asked to be a godparent to this child. Help me to be faithful in the promises I will now make, so that I may be a good example of Christian living to them. Amen**

In baptism your godchild begins their journey of faith. Will you care for your godchild, and help them to take their place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

**With the help of God, I will.**

We all wander far from God and lose our way. Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home. In baptism we respond to his call. Therefore I ask:

Do you turn away from sin? **I do**

Do you reject evil? **I do**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour? **I do**

Do you trust in Christ as Lord? **I do**

*(The parents with their child then join their godparents and together journey to the font)*

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord:

**It is right to give thanks and praise**

Father, for your gift of water in creation. For your Spirit, sweeping over the waters, bringing light and life. For your Son, Jesus Christ, baptized in the river Jordan. For your grace bestowed upon your people, washing away sin. Father, may your holy and life-giving Spirit now move upon these waters, bringing the baptized to new birth in the family of the Church. **Amen**

*(The godparents make the sign of the cross on the child before baptism.)* N I baptize 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 Holy Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. **Amen.**

Prayers: *(We pray for the child, parents and godparents and then the following)*

One of the following prayers for the child is offered. *We pray for N, baptized today.*

Father God, as we gather together in this church, we ask your blessing on N newly baptised into your family. Shine your light on the path they will travel and let them always feel your loving presence near. **Amen**

Lord God, N begins a new journey today. Be with them as they step out in faith; be within them as they seek to do your will; be before and behind them as they make their way on their Christian pilgrimage through this world. **Amen**

One of the following prayers for the parents and godparents is offered: *We pray for the parents and godparents of this child.*

Lord, may you guide these adults with the example of your love, so that they are always ready to listen and to comfort, to encourage and to praise.

May they be given wisdom and strength to be faithful to the promises they have made. **Amen**

Lord, we thank you for the gift of a child, so precious in your sight. May these adults remember the gift that this child is to them. May they seek your guidance knowing that you are the one, perfect, heavenly Father. **Amen**

Lord, bless all families in your care - especially those for whom family life is difficult. Be with those who have no family to care for them. Comfort those whose children cause them worry. Be with those who have yet to have a child. Bring them all the comforts that only a relationship with you can bring. **Amen**

Lord we welcome this child into your family, remembering our own baptism, as we pray: **Our Father, which 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 them that 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.**

*(The parents, godparents and child come out to receive a candle, baptism certificate and prayer cards):* God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light. 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.**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: 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; we welcome you.**

The God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish and strengthen you in the faith; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon N; upon all of you, their family and friends, now and always. **Amen.**