

Affirmation of Holy Baptism 2006 for Confirmation and Renewal

The Rite is intended for use at the Eucharist following the Gospel.

Whenever possible the Bishop presides.

1. INTRODUCTION

The president says

Blessed be God,
All **the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,**
by whose great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope
All **through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.**

2. PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATE(S)

The candidate(s) is/are introduced to the congregation by name.

The president may use these or similar words

Our brother/sister N. has come
to make a deeper commitment
to our Lord Jesus Christ
by renewing his/her baptismal promises and affirming his/her faith.
We pray for him/her and for ourselves.

3. PRAYER

Eternal God, who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
keep your people, born of water and the Spirit,
faithful to their calling;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

4. TURNING TO CHRIST

The president addresses the candidate(s).

Either

The Christian life means
turning from evil
and turning to Christ.
Standing now with Christ,
do you renounce evil?

Answer I renounce evil.

Seeking now to follow him,
do you turn to Christ?

Answer I turn to Christ.

Or

The Christian life means
turning from evil
and turning to Christ.
Do you renounce evil?

Answer I renounce evil.

Do you repent of sin?

Answer I repent of sin.

Do you turn to Christ?

Answer I turn to Christ.

Will you follow Christ?

Answer I will follow Christ.

5. PROFESSION OF FAITH

The president addresses the whole congregation

Do you believe in God the Father?

All **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in God the Son?

All **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The president addresses the candidate(s)

This is the faith of the Church.

Answer **This is our faith. We believe in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

All **Amen.**

6. COMMITMENT TO CHRISTIAN LIFE

The president addresses the candidate(s)

N., as a disciple of Christ will you continue
in the Apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread,
and in the prayers?

Answer With the help of God, I will.

Will you proclaim the good news by word and deed,
serving Christ in all people?

Answer With the help of God, I will.

Will you work for justice and peace,
honouring God in all Creation?

Answer With the help of God, I will.

The president addresses the whole congregation

This is the task of the Church.

All **This is our task;
to live and work for the kingdom of God.**

7. THE LAYING-ON OF HANDS

The president says

God of mercy and love,
new birth by water and the Spirit is your gift,
a gift none can take away;
grant that your servants may grow
into the fullness of the stature of Christ.
Fill them with the joy of your presence.
Increase in them the fruit of your Spirit:
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of love, patience and gentleness,
the spirit of wonder and true holiness.

The president lays hands on each candidate in silence, and then says

Come, Creator Spirit,
rekindle in N. your gifts of grace,
to love and serve as a disciple of Christ.

All **Amen.**

Renew her/his life in Christ
and bring to completion
all that your calling has begun.

All **Amen.**

*Either continuing the laying-on of hands, or anointing the candidate
with the Oil of Chrism, the president says*

Empower your disciple, N.,
to bring life to the world.

All **Amen.**

*At the conclusion of the laying-on of hands for all of the candidates,
the president says*

Living God, sustain all your people
to be hope and strength to the world;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be honour and glory, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

8. *The Eucharist continues with the Peace*

Renewed in the Spirit, we meet in Christ's name;

All **Let us share his peace.**

After Communion this Thanksgiving and Sending may be used

THANKSGIVING AND SENDING

The President addresses the congregation

The light of Christ is within you. Shine as a light in the world.

All **As the seed grows secretly in the earth,
As the yeast rises in the dough,
May the power of God be at work in us.
Like a city on a hill,
Like a lamp in the darkness,
May we witness to the glory of the kingdom.**

The Liturgy concludes with the Blessing and Dismissal.

Notes

General

The new rite of Affirmation of Holy Baptism is not understood as completion of baptism, nor a gateway to full participation in the Eucharist. The primary intention of the rite is pastoral. See Canon 25 “Of Admitting to Holy Communion” as amended in 2005.

The President

Just as the Bishop normally presides at the Eucharist while visiting a congregation, so s/he would normally preside at Affirmation of Baptism in the same way.

The president may delegate her/his role to others, however the president will always lead:

The Introduction

The Presentation of the Candidate(s)

The Laying-on of Hands (and Anointing, if used)

Section 7 Laying-on-of-Hands

The Oil of Chrism blessed by the Bishop, usually on Maundy Thursday, is used here because of its prior use in Baptism.

After Communion, Thanksgiving and Sending

The use of this section is optional. Otherwise the service concludes with Sections 23-26 in the Scottish Liturgy 1982.

Acknowledgements

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