**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).*

***Version 1***

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.

***Version 2***

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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