
THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Holy Baptism in The Episcopal Church is at heart the entrance into a way of life. This way of life is rooted in Christian community and borne out by a commitment to Christian discipleship in the world. Baptism is best celebrated during the weekly Sunday worship: publicly, and with the whole worshipping congregation present.

On the day of Baptism, the congregation celebrates this person as “marked as Christ’s own forever” and welcomes him or her into the community of faith. We ask God to give this person “an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know God and to love God, and the gift of joy and wonder in all God’s works.” (The Book of Common Prayer, p. 308)

In the early Church preparation for the sacrament of Baptism required three years of study, prayer, and practice—a period called catechesis. Candidates, or catechumens, read from the Scriptures daily, worshipped regularly, examined their lives with the help of a church elder, explored their spiritual gifts (how and where they were called by God to serve), and engaged in servant leadership within their community. The core awareness leading up to the day of Baptism is that committing to love in the world as Jesus loves is the adventure of a lifetime and our deepest calling as human beings.

With this in mind, candidates and/or their parents and Godparents are asked to engage in the following activities within the St. Chrysostom’s community summed up by Worship, Study, Serve, Give, Share.

- Attend a Baptism class, usually the Saturday morning before Baptism
- Engage in a rhythm of regular Sunday worship
- Make a [financial “pledge” commitment](#) to the work of God through your local church (a percentage of household income moving incrementally toward the 10% Biblical standard of giving);
- Read one of the Biblical Gospels (Matthew 3:13–17, Mark 1:9–11, Luke 3:21–22 and John 1:29–34);
- Find a way to connect with the church community in a meaningful way;
- Baptismal candidates and/or their families may work with the clergy to select one or more members of the congregation to serve as sponsors. Candidates who are children may have a sponsor or Godparent outside of the local congregation and a sponsor within the congregation.

If you are not currently a member and desire to become a member of St. Chrysostom's Episcopal Church, please contact the church office (info@saintc.org) to start the process of learning about the church and to meet with clergy. Finding a way to connect with the St. Chrysostom’s community and your support of the ministry of St. Chrysostom’s through a financial pledge is part of membership.

With any questions, please contact the church office at 312-944-1083 or info@saintc.org.



BAPTISM FORM

Baptism Date		Time	
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Baptism Class Date		Time	
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Officiating Clergy	
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Candidate Full Name	
Candidate Birthdate	

Parent/Guardian Name	
Parent/Guardian Name	
Contact Phone & Email	

Godparents/Sponsor Name:	
Godparents/Sponsor Name:	

Do you consider yourself a member of St. Chrysostom's Church?	
Have you made a financial pledge to St. Chrysostom's Church?	
Do you participate in the St. Chrysostom's community?	
Are you a member of another congregation? If so, please list.	

Approximate Number of Guests to Attend Baptism	
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR CLERGY OR SERVICE PREPARATION

DONATION

St. Chrysostom's looks forward to celebrating your baptism with you. There is no fee, or charge, to have a Baptism here at St. Chrysostom's Church. However, many families wish to offer a donation, to the Church, on the occasion of their child's Baptism. If anyone so wishes to make a donation to St. Chrysostom's Church in honor of the baptism, please feel free to send a check or submit online: <https://onrealm.org/SaintC/give/baptism>. Donations are so greatly appreciated and truly make a difference in supporting the work of the St. Chrysostom's community.



BAPTISM SERVICE

Presentation and Examination of the Candidate for Baptism: CANDIDATE NAME

Celebrant The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*Parents
and Godparents* I present CANDIDATE to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

*Parents
and Godparents* I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

*Parents
and Godparents* I will, with God's help.

Celebrant Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Response I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Response I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Response I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Response I do.

Celebrant Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Response I do.

Celebrant Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Response I do.

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People **We will.**



St. Chrysostom's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

Celebrant Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Please stand

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **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.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidate

Deacon Let us now pray for CANDIDATE who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.
Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**



St. Chrysostom's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

- Deacon* Open his heart to your grace and truth.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Deacon* Fill him, with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Deacon* Keep him, in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Deacon* Teach him, to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Deacon* Send him, into the world in witness to your love.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Deacon* Bring him, to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- Celebrant* Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen**

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water



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EPISCOPAL CHURCH & DAY SCHOOL

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The Baptism

The candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, who pours water upon the candidate, saying
CANDIDATE, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

All **Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. Amen.**

Celebrant CANDIDATE, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever.

People **Amen.**

Deacon *The Candidate is presented with a lit baptismal candle, saying*
Receive the light of Christ.

Celebrant Let us welcome the newly baptized.

People **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

Celebrant The peace of God be always with you.

People **And also with you**

[Followed by Communion]