

A blue-tinted background featuring a church interior with arches and columns. At the top, a water droplet is captured mid-fall, creating concentric ripples on a surface.

TOGETHER AT BAPTISM

A FAMILY CELEBRATION FOR
THE ANNIVERSARY OF BAPTISM

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As children grow, celebrating the anniversary of their Baptism is a wonderful way to teach the meaning of this sacrament. It is an opportunity to celebrate their special relationship with God and their place in both your family and the family of the Church. This celebration makes use of the symbols of Baptism—water, light, and the Sign of the Cross—to help your child appreciate what it means to be a member of the Church and a follower of Christ. The prayer celebration can be held before a meal or at any time when the family is together. One member of the family serves as the leader and another as the reader. Place your child's lighted Baptismal candle and a clear bowl with water on the table. Insert your child's name wherever it is called for.

Signing with the Cross

All make the Sign of the Cross as the leader says:

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: I have called you by name; you are mine.

All: You are the Lord, my God.

Leader: The day (Name) was baptized was a very special day. The celebration began when the priest welcomed (Name), mom and dad, and godparents (Names) into the Church. (Name) received his/her name and was marked by the Sign of the Cross. As we begin this prayer, let us each trace the Sign of the Cross on (Name)'s forehead as we remember that he/she has been marked with the cross as a follower of Christ. The Word of God

Leader: Now let us open our hearts to hear God's word. A scripture passage from the readings proclaimed at the child's Baptism or another selection found in appendix A of this book may be read.

Reader: A reading from (name of the book)

At the conclusion of the reading, the reader says:

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

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Intercessions

Leader: As a member of God's family and the (family name) family let us now offer our prayers for (Name).

Each member of the family may now offer a prayer, concluding with:

We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Renewal of Baptism

Leader: Let us renew together our Baptismal promises. Do you reject sin, so as to live in the freedom of God's children?

All: I do.

Leader: Do you reject the glamour of evil, and refuse to be mastered by sin?

All: I do.

Leader: Do you reject Satan, father of sin and prince of darkness?

All: I do.

Leader: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

All: I do.

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

All: I do.

Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

All: I do.

Leader: This is our faith. This is the faith of our Church.

All: We are proud to profess it, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Leader: This water reminds us of the water of our Baptism. As we dip our hands in it and make the Sign of the Cross we renew our promise to live as God's children, and as brothers and sisters in Christ. Each person then dips their right hand in the water and makes the Sign of the Cross.

Leader: To conclude, let us join hands and pray the prayer that Jesus gave us.

All: Our Father ...