

Naming the Child  
 Names are important. It is by name that we come to know a person. When we hear a person's name, we call to mind what we know about the person. When we are called by name, we know that we mean something to that person. God has called us each by name. We are very special in God's eye.

# The Rite of Baptism

Duties of Parents and Godparents  
 The parents state that their have brought their child for baptism. This is not to be taken lightly. In asking to have their child baptized, they are agreeing to bring them up to live our Catholic faith. The godparents agree to help the parents to raise the children to know our faith.

Sign of the Cross  
 Jesus' love for us is ultimately revealed in his death on the Cross for us. In making the Sign of the Cross, we say we know what Jesus has done for us in love and in return we give thanks by loving Him.



Prayers & Litany of the Saints  
 We are called to pray for the needs of the child and for all their family. In praying in the name of the saints, we ask for their prayers to God, recognizing their presence in God's Heavenly Kingdom..

Prayer of Exorcism and Oil of Catechumens  
 The Prayer of Exorcism is not to free them from demons but that God may keep them free from evil in the future. Oil is a sign of strengthening. The word "Catechumen" refers to one who is learning. So, this oil reminds us that we need the gift of strength from the Holy Spirit as we learn about our faith.

Readings  
 The Bible contains stories of how God has watched over his people and teaches how God calls us to live. By including readings in our baptismal rite, we are saying yes, the Bible contains the truth we seek.



Blessing of Water  
 In asking God to bless the water, we remember how water is an image of cleansing. In the Great Flood, God cleansed the world of sin. In the parting of the Red Sea, God set his people free. In his own baptism, Jesus makes the water holy so that all who are baptized may be cleansed of our sins.



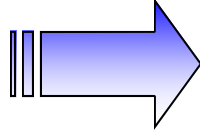
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The Act of Baptism

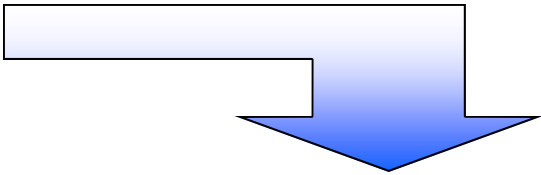


There are two essential parts to the act of baptism. First is the pouring of water and the second is the words based on Matthew 28:19, ***“I baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.”***



Anointing with Chrism

Again oil is used as a strengthening of strengthening. Here it also symbolizes the gift of the Holy Spirit, and sharing in Christ’s mission as priest, prophet, and king

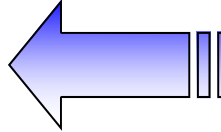


White Garment


White is seen as a color of purity. In Baptism, Jesus frees us from sin and makes us pure before the Lord.

Ephpheta

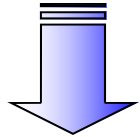
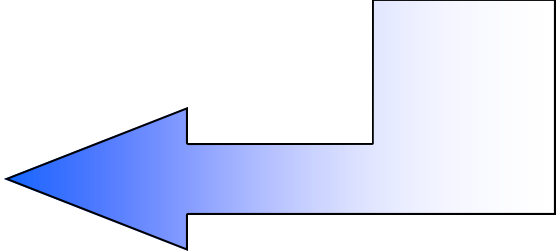
The word “ephpheta” means “be open.” We pray that the Lord may open the child’s ears to receive the Word of God, and the child’s lips to speak the Word of God and to give praise to God.



Candles

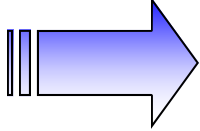


Jesus is the Light of the World (John 8:12). In Baptism, we receive the light and are called to live in the light, sharing the light with others.



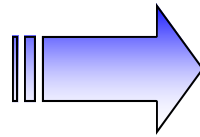
Our Father

The “Our Father” is the prayer that Jesus taught us. It is the prayer that tells us how we are called to pray and live.



Final Blessing

We end with a blessing for the parents, the child, and all the baptized to be strengthened in all our



**Life  
in  
Christ**

“Full, Conscious, and Active Participation (S.C. 14)