**Easter Vigil**

**Baptismal Liturgy: Option A – Candidate(s) for Baptism**

* **Presentation of the Elect and Litany of Saints**

**COMMENTATOR:**

**We now begin the third part of our ceremony, the Liturgy of Baptism.**

**Tonight it will be our pleasure to witness the Baptism, Confirmation and first Communion of … …, who will begin his/her life as a member of the Catholic Church.**

**Priest:** My dear friends in Christ,  
 with one heart and one soul,  
 let us by our prayers  
 come to the aid of …,  
 in his/her blessed hope, so that,  
 as he/she approaches the font of rebirth,

the almighty Father may bestow on him/her all his merciful help.

**COMMENTATOR:**

**I now invite … to come forward to the sanctuary with his/her sponsor as the Litany of the Saints is sung.**

* **LITANY** (*sung by ……*)

***The patron saints of those to be baptized are included in the Litany.***

Lord have mercy, LORD HAVE MERCY.

Christ have mercy, CHRIST HAVE MERCY.

Lord have mercy. LORD HAVE MERCY.

Holy Mary, Mother of God PRAY FOR US

St. Gabriel and St. Michael PRAY FOR US

Holy angels of God PRAY FOR US

…..

All holy men and women. PRAY FOR US

Lord be merciful LORD, DELIVER US, WE PRAY.

From all evil LORD, DELIVER US, WE PRAY

From every sin LORD, DELIVER US, WE PRAY

From everlasting death LORD, DELIVER US, WE PRAY

By your Incarnation- LORD, DELIVER US, WE PRAY

By your Death and Resurrection LORD, DELIVER US, WE PRAY

By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit LORD, DELIVER US, WE PRAY

Be merciful to us sinners LORD, WE ASK YOU, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Guide and protect your Church LORD, WE ASK YOU, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Bring these chosen ones to new birth

through the grace of Baptism LORD, WE ASK YOU, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Make this font holy by your grace for

the new birth of your children LORD, WE ASK YOU, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Jesus, Son of the Living God LORD, WE ASK YOU, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Christ, hear us CHRIST, HEAR US

Christ, graciously hear us CHRIST, GRACIOUSLY HEAR US.

**Priest:** Almighty ever-living God,  
 be present by the mysteries of your great love  
 and send forth the spirit of adoption  
 to create the new peoples  
 brought forth for you in the font of Baptism,  
 so that what is to be carried out by your humble service  
 may be brought to fulfilment by your mighty power.  
 Through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen**

* **BLESSING OF BAPTISMAL WATER**

***Facing the font (or vessel) containing the water, the celebrant then blesses the water which will be used for baptism***

**Priest:** O God,  
 who by invisible power  
 accomplish a wondrous effect  
 through sacramental signs  
 and who in many ways have prepared water, your creation,  
 to show forth the grace of Baptism;

O God, whose Spirit  
in the first moments of the world’s creation  
hovered over the waters,  
so that the very substance of water  
would even then take to itself the power to sanctify;

O God, who by the outpouring of the flood  
foreshadowed regeneration,  
so that from the mystery of one and the same element of water  
would come an end to vice and a beginning of virtue;

O God, who caused the children of Abraham  
to pass dry-shod through the Red Sea,  
so that the chosen people,  
set free from slavery to Pharaoh,  
would prefigure the people of the baptized;

O God, whose Son,  
baptized by John in the waters of the Jordan,  
was anointed with the Holy Spirit,  
and, as he hung upon the Cross,  
gave forth water from his side along with blood,  
and after his Resurrection, commanded his disciples:  
“Go forth, teach all nations, baptizing them  
in the name of the Father and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit”,  
  
look now, we pray, upon the face of your Church  
and graciously unseal for her the fountain of Baptism.

May this water receive by the Holy Spirit  
the grace of your Only Begotten Son,  
so that human nature, created in your image,  
and washed clean through the Sacrament of Baptism  
from all the squalour of the life of old,  
may be found worthy to rise to the life of newborn children  
through water and the Holy Spirit.

***(The celebrant lowers the Easter candle into the water and holds it there for the remainder of the blessing)***

May the power of the Holy Spirit,  
O Lord, we pray,  
come down through your Son  
into the fullness of this font,  
so that all who have been buried with Christ  
by Baptism into death  
may rise again to life with him.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**All: Amen**.

***The candle is lifted out of the water and the people sing:***

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* **Renunciation of Sin by those to be baptized**

***The priest may question each candidate individually or together as a group (if there are several candidates)***

**Priest**:Do you renounce Satan,

**… : I do.**

**Priest**: and all his works,

**… : I do.**

**Priest**:and all his empty show?

**… : I do.**

* **Profession of Faith by those to be baptized**

***The priest addresses each candidate individually. He/she makes his/her Profession of Faith and is baptized immediately afterwards.***

**Priest**:Do you believe in God, the Father almighty,

Creator or heaven and earth?

**… : I do.**

**Priest**:Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

who was born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered death and was buried,

rose again from the dead,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

**… : I do.**

**Priest**: 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?

**… : I do.**

* **BAPTISM**

**Priest**: I baptize you in the name of the Father,

And of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**…** : **Amen**

***All sing****:* Up from the waters God has claimed you, up from the waters, child of light.   
 Praise to the one who called and named you up from the waters into life. (x2)

(or another suitable acclamation)

**Explanatory Rites**

* **CLOTHING WITH BAPTISMAL GARMENT**

***… is now clothed with his/her baptismal garment***

Priest: Receive this baptismal garment

***The sponsor places the garments on …***

**Priest**: …, you have become a new creation   
 and have clothed yourself in Christ.   
 See in your white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity.   
 With your family and friends to help you by word and example,   
 bring that dignity unstained the everlasting life of heaven.

**…** : **Amen**.

* **PRESENTATION OF A LIGHTED CANDLE**

***The sponsor lights the baptismal candles from the Easter candle and hands it to the newly-baptised.***

***The Priest then addresses the newly-baptised:***

You have been enlightened by Christ.

Walk always as a child of the light

and keep the flame of faith alive in your heart.

When the Lord comes, may you go out to meet him

with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom.

**…** : **Amen.**

* **Confirmation**

**Priest**: … ,  
 by your baptism you have been born again in Christ   
 and you have become a member of Christ and of his priestly people.

Now you are to share in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit among us,   
the Spirit sent by the Lord upon his apostles at Pentecost   
and given by them and their successors to the baptized.

The promised strength of the Holy Spirit,   
which you are to receive,   
will make you more like Christ   
and help you to be a witness to his suffering, death, and resurrection.   
It will strengthen you to be an active member of the Church   
and to build up the Body of Christ in faith and love.

***The Priest then addresses the rest of the assembly:***

My dear friends,   
let us pray to God our Father,   
that he will pour out the Holy Spirit on this candidate for Confirmation,  
to strengthen him/her with his gifts   
and anoint him/her to be more like Christ, the Son of God.

***All pray briefly in silence.***

***With* *his hands outstretched* *over the candidate*, *the Priest says the following prayer*:**

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,   
who brought this/these servant/s to new birth  
by water and the holy Spirit,   
freeing him/her/them from sin:.   
send upon him/her/them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete;

give him/her/them the spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the spirit of counsel and fortitude,

the spirit of knowledge and piety;

fill his/her/them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord.

Through Christ our Lord.

**ALL: Amen.**

* **ANOINTING**

***The sponsor hands the card to the Assisting Minister and says the Confirmation name:***

The Priestanoints each one, saying*:*

**Priest**: N (*Confirmation name*).  
 be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

**Candidate**: **Amen**.

**Priest**: Peace be with you.

**Candidate**: **And with your spirit**.

***At the conclusion of the confirmation, the Priest invites the community to welcome … into the faith community with applause. The newly-baptised and confirmed are then led to their places in the assembly by their sponsors.***

* **Renewal of Baptismal Promises**

**COMMENTATOR:**

**The candles in the congregation will now be lit for the Renewal of our Baptismal promises and the Sprinkling with Holy Water. Candles will be lit at the end of each row and you are asked to once more pass the light on carefully.**

**To renew our baptismal promises we respond to each of the questions with the words I do**.

**Priest**: Dear brothers and sisters,

through the paschal mystery

we have been buried with Christ in Baptism,

so that we may walk with him in newness of life. And so, now that our Lenten observance is concluded,

let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism,

by which we once renounced Satan and his works

and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church.

And so I ask you:

**Priest**: Do your renounce Satan?

**ALL: I do.**

**Priest**: And all his works?

**ALL: I do.**

**Priest**: And all his empty show?

**ALL: I do.**

***The Priest then continues with the profession of faith***

**Priest**: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty,   
 Creator of heaven and earth

**ALL: I do**

**Priest**: Do you believe in Jesus Christ,

his only Son, our Lord,

who was born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered death and was buried,

rose again from the dead,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

**ALL: I do.**

**Priest**: 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.**

**Priest**: And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,   
 who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit   
 and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins,

keep us by his grace,  
 in Christ Jesus our Lord,

for eternal life.

**ALL: Amen.**

**The priest *sprinkles the people with the blessed water, during which an appropriate hymn is sung (or the music for “Come to the Water” is played).***

**COMMENTATOR: We now extinguish our candles.**

***The priest returns to the chair, and the General Intercessions are prayed****.*

**Easter Vigil**

**Baptismal Liturgy: Option B – Candidate(s) for Baptism**

***and***

**Candidate(s) for Reception into Full Communion with the Catholic Church**

* **Presentation of the Elect and Litany of Saints**

**COMMENTATOR:**

**We now begin the third part of our ceremony, the Liturgy of Baptism.**

**Tonight it will be our pleasure to witness the Baptism, Confirmation and first Communion of … …, who will begin his/her life as a member of the Catholic Church.**

**Priest:** My dear friends in Christ,  
 with one heart and one soul,  
 let us by our prayers  
 come to the aid of …,  
 in his/her blessed hope, so that,  
 as he/she approaches the font of rebirth,

the almighty Father may bestow on him/her all his merciful help.

**COMMENTATOR:**

**I now invite … to come forward to the sanctuary with his/her sponsor as the Litany of the Saints is sung.**

* **LITANY** (*sung by ……*)

***The patron saints of those to be baptized are included in the Litany.***

Lord have mercy, LORD HAVE MERCY.

Christ have mercy, CHRIST HAVE MERCY.

Lord have mercy. LORD HAVE MERCY.

Holy Mary, Mother of God PRAY FOR US

St. Gabriel and St. Michael PRAY FOR US

Holy angels of God PRAY FOR US

…..

All holy men and women. PRAY FOR US

Lord be merciful LORD, DELIVER US, WE PRAY.

From all evil LORD, DELIVER US, WE PRAY

From every sin LORD, DELIVER US, WE PRAY

From everlasting death LORD, DELIVER US, WE PRAY

By your Incarnation- LORD, DELIVER US, WE PRAY

By your Death and Resurrection LORD, DELIVER US, WE PRAY

By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit LORD, DELIVER US, WE PRAY

Be merciful to us sinners. LORD, WE ASK YOU, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Guide and protect your Church. LORD, WE ASK YOU, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Bring these chosen ones to new birth

through the grace of Baptism LORD, WE ASK YOU, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Make this font holy by your grace for

the new birth of your children LORD, WE ASK YOU, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Jesus, Son of the Living God. LORD, WE ASK YOU, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Christ, hear us CHRIST, HEAR US

Christ, graciously hear us. CHRIST, GRACIOUSLY HEAR US.

**Priest:** Almighty ever-living God,  
 be present by the mysteries of your great love  
 and send forth the spirit of adoption  
 to create the new peoples  
 brought forth for you in the font of Baptism,  
 so that what is to be carried out by your humble service  
 may be brought to fulfilment by your mighty power.  
 Through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen**

* **Blessing of Baptismal Water**

***Facing the font (or vessel) containing the water, the celebrant then blesses the water which will be used for Baptism***

**Priest:** O God,  
 who by invisible power  
 accomplish a wondrous effect  
 through sacramental signs  
 and who in many ways have prepared water, your creation,  
 to show forth the grace of Baptism;

O God, whose Spirit  
in the first moments of the world’s creation  
hovered over the waters,  
so that the very substance of water  
would even then take to itself the power to sanctify;

O God, who by the outpouring of the flood  
foreshadowed regeneration,  
so that from the mystery of one and the same element of water  
would come an end to vice and a beginning of virtue;

O God, who caused the children of Abraham  
to pass dry-shod through the Red Sea,  
so that the chosen people,  
set free from slavery to Pharaoh,  
would prefigure the people of the baptized;

O God, whose Son,  
baptized by John in the waters of the Jordan,  
was anointed with the Holy Spirit,  
and, as he hung upon the Cross,  
gave forth water from his side along with blood,  
and after his Resurrection, commanded his disciples:  
“Go forth, teach all nations, baptizing them  
in the name of the Father and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit”,  
look now, we pray, upon the face of your Church  
and graciously unseal for her the fountain of Baptism.

May this water receive by the Holy Spirit  
the grace of your Only Begotten Son,  
so that human nature, created in your image,  
and washed clean through the Sacrament of Baptism  
from all the squalour of the life of old,  
may be found worthy to rise to the life of newborn children  
through water and the Holy Spirit.

***(The celebrant lowers the Easter candle into the water and holds it there for the remainder of the blessing)***

May the power of the Holy Spirit,  
O Lord, we pray,  
come down through your Son  
into the fullness of this font,  
so that all who have been buried with Christ  
by Baptism into death  
may rise again to life with him.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**All: Amen**.

***The candle is lifted out of the water and the people sing:***

A picture containing chart

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* **Renunciation of Sin by those to be baptized**

***The priest may question each candidate individually or together as a group (if there are several candidates)***

**Priest**:Do you renounce Satan,

**… : I do.**

**Priest**: and all his works,

**… : I do.**

**Priest**:and all his empty show?

**… : I do.**

* **Profession of Faith by those to be baptized**

***The priest addresses each candidate individually. He/she makes his/her Profession of Faith and is baptized immediately afterwards.***

**Priest** Do you believe in God, the Father almighty,

Creator or heaven and earth?

**… : I do.**

**Priest**:Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

who was born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered death and was buried,

rose again from the dead,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

**… : I do.**

**Priest**: 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?

**… : I do.**

* **Baptism**

**Priest**: I baptize you in the name of the Father,

And of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**…** : **Amen.**

***All sing****:* Up from the waters God has claimed you, up from the waters, child of light.   
 Praise to the one who called and named you up from the waters into life. (x2)

(or another suitable acclamation)

* **CLOTHING WITH BAPTISMAL GARMENT**

***… is now clothed with his/her baptismal garment***

**Priest**: Receive this baptismal garment

***The sponsor places the garments on …***

**Priest**: …, you have become a new creation   
 and have clothed yourself in Christ.   
 See in your white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity.   
 With your family and friends to help you by word and example,   
 bring that dignity unstained the everlasting life of heaven.

**…** : **Amen**.

* **PRESENTATION OF A LIGHTED CANDLE**

***The sponsor lights the baptismal candles from the Easter candle and hands it to the newly-baptised.***

***The Priest then addresses the newly-baptised:***

You have been enlightened by Christ.

Walk always as a child of the light

and keep the flame of faith alive in your heart.

When the Lord comes, may you go out to meet him

with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom.

**…** : **Amen.**

***The Priest then invites the community to welcome … into the faith community with applause. He/she and his/her sponsor then return to their place in the body of the church.***

* **Renewal of baptismal promises – for Congregation and those to be received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church**

**COMMENTATOR**

**The candles in the congregation will now be lit for the Renewal of our Baptismal promises and the Sprinkling with Holy Water. Candles will be lit at the end of each row and you are asked to once more pass the light on carefully.**

**Also renewing his/her baptismal promises is …, who is to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church. I now invite … to come forward with his/her sponsor.**

***… and his/her sponsor come forward and light their candles from the paschal candle. They stand facing the people.***

**COMMENTATOR: To renew our baptismal promises we respond to each of the questions with the words I do.**

**Priest**: Dear brothers and sisters,

through the paschal mystery  
 we have been buried with Christ in Baptism,  
 so that we may walk with him in newness of life.

And so, now that our Lenten observance is concluded,

let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism,

by which we once renounced Satan and his works

and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church.

And so I ask you:

**Priest**: Do your renounce Satan?

**ALL: I do.**

**Priests**: And all his works?

**ALL: I do.**

**Priest**: And all his empty show?

**ALL: I do.**

***The Priest then continues with the Profession of Faith***

Priest: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty,   
 Creator of heaven and earth

**ALL: I do.**

**Priest**: Do you believe in Jesus Christ,

his only Son, our Lord,

who was born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered death and was buried,

rose again from the dead,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

**ALL: I do.**

**Priest**: 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.**

**Priest**: And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,   
 who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit   
 and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins,

keep us by his grace,  
 in Christ Jesus our Lord,

for eternal life.

**ALL: Amen.**

**The priest *sprinkles the people with the blessed water, during which an appropriate hymn is sung (or the music for “Come to the Water” is played).***

**COMMENTATOR: We now extinguish our candles.**

* **Rite of Reception into Full Communion**

**COMMENTATOR:   
…, our candidate for reception into full communion with the Catholic Church will now make his/her profession of faith.**

**Priest**: …, of your own free will you have asked to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church. You have made your decision after careful thought under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. I invite you now, in the presence of this community, to profess the Catholic faith.   
In this faith you will be one with us for the first time at the Eucharistic table of   
the Lord Jesus, the sign of the Church’s unity.

**… : I believe and profess all that the holy Catholic Church believes,   
 teaches, and proclaims to be revealed by God.**

***… and his/her sponsor go to the Priest, who says:***

**Priest**: … ,   
 the Lord receives you into the Catholic Church.

His loving kindness has led you here,

so that in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
you may have full communion with us  
in the faith you have professed in the presence of his family.

Choir sings: *There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
 There is one God who is Father of all.*  (x2)

(*or some other appropriate acclamation)*

* **Confirmation**

**COMMENTATOR: I now invite … and his/her sponsor, to come forward again and join …, so that they can be confirmed.**

***The newly-baptised and sponsor come forward to the sanctuary, where … will be the first to be confirmed.***

**Priest**: … (*newly-baptised*) and … (*person received into Full Communion*),  
 by your baptism you have been born again in Christ   
 and you have become a member of Christ and of his priestly people.

Now you are to share in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit among us,   
the Spirit sent by the Lord upon his apostles at Pentecost   
and given by them and their successors to the baptized.

The promised strength of the Holy Spirit,   
which you are to receive,   
will make you more like Christ   
and help you to be a witness to his suffering, death, and resurrection.   
It will strengthen you to be an active member of the Church   
and to build up the Body of Christ in faith and love.

***The Priest then addresses the rest of the assembly:***

My dear friends,   
let us pray to God our Father,   
that he will pour out the Holy Spirit on these candidates for Confirmation,  
to strengthen them with his gifts   
and anoint them to be more like Christ, the Son of God.

***All pray briefly in silence.***

***With* *his hands outstretched* *over the candidates*, *the Priest says the following prayer*:**

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,   
who brought this/these servant/s to new birth  
by water and the holy Spirit,   
freeing him/her/them from sin:.   
send upon him/her/them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete;

give him/her/them the spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the spirit of counsel and fortitude,

the spirit of knowledge and piety;

fill his/her/them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord.

Through Christ our Lord.

**ALL: Amen.**

* **Anointing**

***The sponsor hands the card to the Assisting Minister and says the Confirmation name:***

The Priestanoints each one, saying*:*

**Priest**:N (*Confirmation name*).  
 be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

**Candidate**: **Amen**.

**Priest**: Peace be with you.

**Candidate**: **And with your spirit**.

***At the conclusion of the confirmation, the newly-baptised and confirmed are led to their places in the assembly by their sponsors.***

***The priest returns to the chair, and the General Intercessions are prayed****.*

**Easter Vigil**

**Baptismal Liturgy: Option C: No candidates for Baptism, but candidate(s) for Full Communion into the Catholic Church**

**COMMENTATOR**

**We now begin the third part of our ceremony, the Liturgy of Baptism.**

**Since there are no baptisms this evening, this part of the ceremony begins with the Blessing of the Water.**

* **Blessing the Water**

***Facing the font (or vessel) containing the water, the celebrant then blesses the water which will be used for baptism***

**Priest**:Dear brothers and sisters

Let us humbly beseech the Lord our God  
to bless this water he has created,  
which will be sprinkled upon us  
as a memorial of our Baptism.  
May he graciously renew us,  
that we may remain faithful to the Spirit  
whom we have received.

***All pray silently for a short while. The priest then continues:***

Lord our God,  
in your mercy be present to your people  
who keep vigil on this most sacred night,   
and, for us who recall the wondrous work of our creation  
and the still greater work of our redemption,  
graciously bless this water.  
For you created water to make the fields fruitful  
and to refresh and cleanse our bodies.  
you also made water the instrument of your mercy:

for through water you freed your people from slavery  
and quenched their thirst in the desert;  
through water the Prophets proclaimed the new covenant  
you were to enter upon with the human race;  
and last of all,   
through water, which Christ made holy in the Jordan,   
you have renewed our corrupted nature  
in the bath of regeneration.  
Therefore, may this water be for us  
a memorial of the Baptism we have received,  
and grant that we may share  
in the gladness of our brothers and sisters,  
who at Easter have received the Baptism.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

* **Renewal of Baptismal Promises – for Congregation and those to be Received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church**

**COMMENTATOR**

**The candles in the congregation will now be lit for the Renewal of our Baptismal promises and the Sprinkling with Holy Water. Candles will be lit at the end of each row and you are asked to once more pass the light on carefully.**

**Also renewing his/her baptismal promises is …, who is to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church. I now invite … to come forward with his/her sponsor.**

***… and his/her sponsor come forward and light their candles from the paschal candle. They stand facing the people.***

**COMMENTATOR: To renew our baptismal promises we respond to each of the questions with the words I do.**

**Priest**: Dear brothers and sisters,

through the paschal mystery  
 we have been buried with Christ in Baptism,  
 so that we may walk with him in newness of life.

And so, now that our Lenten observance is concluded,

let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism,

by which we once renounced Satan and his works

and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church.

And so I ask you:

**Priest**: Do your renounce Satan?

**ALL: I do.**

**Priest**: And all his works?

**ALL: I do.**

**Priest**: And all his empty show?

**ALL: I do.**

***The Priest then continues with the Profession of Faith***

**Priest**: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty,   
 Creator of heaven and earth

**ALL: I do**

**Priest**: Do you believe in Jesus Christ,

his only Son, our Lord,

who was born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered death and was buried,

rose again from the dead,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

**ALL: I do.**

**Priest**: 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.**

**Priest**: And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,   
 who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit   
 and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins,

keep us by his grace,  
 in Christ Jesus our Lord,

for eternal life.

**ALL: Amen.**

**The priest *sprinkles the people with the blessed water, during which an appropriate hymn is sung (or the music for “Come to the Water” is played).***

**COMMENTATOR: We now extinguish our candles.**

**… , our candidate for reception into full communion with the Catholic Church will now make his/her profession of faith**.

**Priest**: … , of your own free will you have asked to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church. You have made your decision after careful thought under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. I invite you now, in the presence of this community, to profess the Catholic faith.   
In this faith you will be one with us for the first time at the Eucharistic table of the Lord Jesus, the sign of the Church’s unity.

**… : I believe and profess all that the holy Catholic Church   
 believes, teaches, and proclaims to be revealed by God.**

***… and his/her sponsor go to the Priest, who says :***

**Priest**: … ,   
 the Lord receives you into the Catholic Church.

His loving kindness has led you here,

so that in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
you may have full communion with us  
in the faith you have professed in the presence of his family.

Choir sings: There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
 There is one God who is Father of all. (x2)  
 (*or another appropriate antiphon is sung*)

* **Celebration of Confirmation**

**Priest**: … ,  
 by your baptism you have been born again in Christ   
 and you have become a member of Christ and of his priestly people.

Now you are to share in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit among us,   
the Spirit sent by the Lord upon his apostles at Pentecost   
and given by them and their successors to the baptized.

The promised strength of the Holy Spirit,   
which you are to receive,   
will make you more like Christ   
and help you to be a witness to his suffering, death, and resurrection.   
It will strengthen you to be an active member of the Church   
and to build up the Body of Christ in faith and love.

***The Priest* *then addresses the rest of the assembly:***

My dear friends,   
let us pray to God our Father,   
that he will pour out the Holy Spirit on   
this candidate for confirmation,  
to strengthen him/her with his gifts   
and anoint him/her to be more like Christ, the Son of God.

***All pray briefly in silence.***

***With* *his hands outstretched* *over …* *the Priest says the following prayer*:**

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,   
who brought this/these servant/s to new birth  
by water and the holy Spirit,   
freeing him/her/them from sin:.   
send upon him/her/them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete;

give him/her/them the spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the spirit of counsel and fortitude,

the spirit of knowledge and piety;

fill his/her/them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord.

Through Christ our Lord..

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**ALL: Amen.**

* **Anointing**

***The sponsor hands the card to the Assisting Minister and says the Confirmation name:***

The Priest anoints the candidate, saying*:*

**Priest**:N (*Confirmation name*).  
 be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

**…** : **Amen**.

**Priest**: Peace be with you.

**…** : **And with your spirit**.

***At the conclusion of the confirmation, … is led to his/her place in the assembly by his/her sponsor.***

***The priest returns to the chair, and the Universal Prayer is prayed.***

**Easter Vigil**

**Baptismal Liturgy: Option D – No candidates for either Baptism or Reception into Full Communion with the Catholic Church.**

**COMMENTATOR**

**We now begin the third part of our ceremony, the Liturgy of Baptism.**

**Since we do not have anyone to be baptised this year, this part of the ceremony begins with the Blessing of the Water.**

***Facing the font (or vessel) containing the water, the celebrant then blesses the water which will be used for baptism***

**Priest**: Dear brothers and sisters,  
 let us humbly beseech the Lord our God  
 to bless this water he has created,  
 which will be sprinkled upon us  
 as a memorial of our Baptism.  
 May he graciously renew us,  
 that we may remain faithful to the Spirit  
 whom we have received.

***After a brief pause in silence, he proclaims the following prayer, with hands extended:***

Lord our God,  
 in your mercy be present to your people  
 who keep vigil on this most sacred night,  
 and, for us who recall the wondrous work of our creation  
 and the still greater work of our redemption,  
 graciously bless this water.  
 For you created water to make the fields fruitful  
 and to refresh and cleanse our bodies.  
 You also made water the instrument of your mercy:  
 for through water you freed your people from slavery  
 and quenched their thirst in the desert;  
 through water the Prophets proclaimed the new covenant  
 you were to enter upon with the human race;  
 and last of all,  
 through water, which Christ made holy in the Jordan,  
 you have renewed our corrupted nature  
 in the bath of regeneration.  
 Therefore, may this water be for us  
 a memorial of the baptism we have received,  
 and grant that we may share  
 in the gladness of our brothers and sisters,  
 who at Easter have received their Baptism.  
 Through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

* **Renewal f Baptismal Promises**

**COMMENTATOR**

**The candles in the congregation will now be lit for the Renewal of our Baptismal promises and the Sprinkling with Holy Water. Candles will be lit at the end of each row and you are asked to pass the light on. Once again, please be careful that no wax is spilt on the carpet.**

**To renew our baptismal promises we respond to each of the questions with the words I do.**

**Priest**: Dear brothers and sisters, through the Paschal Mystery

we have been buried with Christ in baptism,

so that we may walk with him in newness of life.

And so, now that our Lenten observance is concluded,

let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism,

by which we once renounced Satan and his works

and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church.

**Priest**: Do you renounce sin,  
 so as to live in the freedom of the children of God?

**ALL: I do.**

**Priest**: Do you renounce the lure of evil,  
 so that sin may have no mastery over you?

**ALL: I do.**

**Priest**: Do you renounce Satan, the author and prince of sin?

**ALL: I do.**

***The priest then continues with the Profession of Faith***

**Priest**: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty,   
 creator of heaven and earth

**ALL: I do**

**Priest**: Do you believe in Jesus Christ,   
 his only Son, our Lord,

who was born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered death, and was buried,

rose again from the dead,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

**ALL: I do.**

**Priest**: 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

the life everlasting?

**ALL: I do**.

**Priest**: And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
 who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit  
 and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins,  
 keep us by his grace,

in Christ Jesus our Lord,  
 for eternal life.

**ALL: Amen**.

**The priest *sprinkles the people with the blessed water, during which an appropriate hymn is sung (or the music for “Come to the Water” is played).***

**COMMENTATOR: We now extinguish our candles.**

***The priest returns to the chair, and the General Intercessions are prayed.***