

CHURCH OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS
PARISH OF ABINGDON-ON-THAMES
BAPTISM OF CHRIST – THANKSGIVING FOR HOLY BAPTISM

¶ *As the ministers and servers enter, **please turn to face the font.***

¶ *The priest pours water into the font with these words*

God in Christ gives us water welling up for eternal life.
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

All **Lord, give us this water and we shall thirst no more.**

¶ *The priest stands before the water and says*

Priest God who made heaven and earth,

All **who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise for your gift of water in creation;
for your Spirit, sweeping over the waters, bringing light and life; for
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, baptized in the river Jordan.
We bless you for your new creation, brought to birth by water and the
Spirit, and for your grace bestowed upon us your children, washing
away our sins.

May your holy and life-giving Spirit move upon these waters. Restore
through them the beauty of your creation, and bring those who are
baptized to new birth in the family of your Church.

Drown sin in the waters of judgement, anoint your children with power
from on high, and make them one with Christ in the freedom of your
kingdom. For all might, majesty, dominion and power are yours, now
and for ever.

All **Alleluia. Amen.**

¶ *The Prayer over the Water is followed by this act of penitence and
dedication*

Priest God of truth, you are faithful to the covenant you have made with us;
look in mercy on your people. From all our sins, O Lord:

All **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

We have broken the pledges of our baptism, and failed to be your disciples. From all our sins, O Lord:

All **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

Though we are saved by Christ and dead to sin through the deep waters of death, we have not witnessed to his grace by our manner of life.

From all our sins, O Lord:

All **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

We have shown indifference to those in need and have been afraid to stand up for justice and truth. From all our sins, O Lord:

All **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

We have been slow to forgive, and have failed to remember your repeated forgiveness of our sins. From all our sins, O Lord:

All **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

Today we rejoice and give thanks because your Son humbled himself to be baptized in the Jordan. Through the waters you have given us the mystery of baptism for the remission of our sins. From all our sins, O Lord:

All **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

Through water and Spirit you give us new life as the people of God, and pour out upon us the gifts of your new covenant. From all our sins, O Lord:

All **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

Almighty God, in our baptism you have consecrated us to be temples of your Holy Spirit. May we, whom you have counted worthy, nurture your indwelling Spirit with a lively faith, and worship you with upright lives; through Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

¶ *The congregation are sprinkled with Holy Water. The priest then says*

Priest 'Come,' say the Spirit and the Bride. 'Come forward, you who are thirsty, receive the water of life, the free gift to all who desire it.' May almighty God have mercy on *us*, forgive *us our* sins, and bring *us* to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

¶ *The Mass continues as usual in the service booklet. The Gloria sung by all. The ministers and server return to the crossing. **Please turn to face the altar.***

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