

## Baby Blessing #12

### *Candle Ceremony With Water / Oil Blessing*



Below is a sample of a traditional baby blessing with candle ceremony and water/oil blessing.

Any elements can be changed to custom tailor the ceremony to your needs.

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~Baby Blessing with Candle Ceremony~

- Greeting
- Invocation/prayer
- Charge to the parents
- Parental promise
- Charge to, responsibility and vows of Godparents
- Declaration of baby's name and its significance
- Water ceremony; Oil ceremony
- Candle lighting
- Closing prayer or blessing

\*\*\*\*\*If you like after the Parental Promise you may add any of these elements:

Honoring a sibling  
Remembering those who have passed  
Honoring the grandparents

Altar is set up in the center of the room. A small bowl of blessed water with rose petals in

it, is sitting in the center (it has been blessed prior to the ceremony). Six white candles are placed on the table. One represents the baby, 2 represent the parents, 2 represent the godparents (or grandparents whatever tradition you have chosen). A source candle that represents God, this candle is for members to light the ceremony candles from. You may choose to include other momentos on alter such as family photos, flowers, anything of special meaning to the family.

Ceremony begins with Officiant, parents holding their beautiful new baby and godparents/grandparents (whatever the parents have chosen) standing at the altar. Soft music in background may be played while guests arrive.

## **Greeting**

Officiant:

Welcome friends and family! Today is a very joyous day for all of us. It is a day in which we celebrate the birth of this child (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ who has been sent to us by God. This child is a piece of God that was given to the earth to make this world a little better, a little more interesting. This child is our future and represents the light of the world. (Parent's) \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ have honored all of you today by inviting you to not only witness this beautiful welcoming ceremony, but most importantly, to participate in the blessing of this child.

## **Invocation**

This is the beginning prayer to “invoke” or ask God to be present and bless this service that is about to begin.

Officiant:

Let us pray

Heavenly Father, we ask for Your Blessing here today. Protect our family and community and surround us with your infinite unconditional love. Keep us mindful that the miracle of new life is both a gift and path back to you. We ask that our sense of community be strengthened by what we are about to witness here today. Amen.

## **Charge To Parents**

Officiant:

(Child) \_\_\_\_\_ has honored you by choosing you as her/his parents. Therefore, honor him/her and remember that (Child) \_\_\_\_\_ is his/her own being with his/her own thoughts and feelings. She/He is a child of the universe and has been given many

gifts from the Divine so that she/he can light the way for the future. Therefore, it is important for you to support him/her and protect him/her, so that his/her gifts may blossom and she/he can make this world better than it was before.

## Parental Promise

**Officiant:**

\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_, will you promise to love, nurture, and support \_\_\_\_\_, and to create a healthy environment so that she/her may grow on his/her specific path? If so, please answer “We will.”

Parents: We will

## Charge To Godparents

**Officiant:**

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, as Godparents to \_\_\_\_\_, God will give you the wisdom and ability to hold within your heart forever his/her spiritual welfare. You are charged with the responsibility of seeing to the spiritual welfare of this child should the need arise and it is you who stands as spiritual counselors.

Do you accept this duty and charge? If so please answer “we do”

God Parents: “We do.”

Do you promise to love, honor, support and encourage (Child)\_\_\_\_\_ throughout his/her life?

Godparents: “We do.”

## Christening Of Name

**Officiant: To parents**

What name have you chosen for your child?

Parents answer: \_\_\_\_\_

We christen you \_\_\_\_\_ in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

**Officiant:**

I christen you that you may know the pure and holy spirit of God, your eternal source of faith. May you come to know God within your heart all the days of your life.

## **The Blessing of the Child**

*(I will address the new baby and I will use the blessed water with roses to bless the top of her/his head, her/his forehead, her/his heart, both her/his hands and both her/his feet) .*

Officiant rubs the blessed water on the top of her/his head and say:

You are connected, protected, loved, and blessed.

Officiant rubs the blessed water on her/his forehead and say:

All your senses are blessed, protected, and awakened.

Officiant rubs the blessed water over her heart and say:

Your heart is blessed so that you may feel compassion for yourself and others.

Officiant rubs the blessed water on both her/his hands and say:

Your hands are blessed so that you may reach out to the world.

Officiant rubs the blessed water on both her/his feet and say:

Your feet are blessed so that you may connect with the earth, be grounded, and stand your ground in this world. Know that your spirit is strong and it will guide you through this life. Know that you have angels to watch over you and that you are never alone. Know that you are deeply loved and that your presence brings overwhelming joy.

## **Poem**

**Read by a Grandparent or Godparent:**

*Speak to Us of Children*

*(by Kahil Gibran)*

Your children are not your children  
They are the sons and daughters of life's longing for itself.  
They come through you but not from you.  
And though they are with you yet they belong not to you.  
You may give them your love but not your thoughts,  
For they have their own thoughts.  
You may house their bodies but not their souls,  
For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow,  
Which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.  
You may strive to be like them.

For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterdays.  
You are bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth.  
The archer seeks the mark upon the path of the infinite,  
And he bends you with His might that His arrow may go swift and far.  
Let your blending in the archer's hand be for goodness.  
For even as He loves the arrow that flies,  
So He loves the bow that is stable.



## Candle Lighting

Officiant:

In Christian worship traditionally, the lighting of candles has many spiritual meanings. The light of candle represents the light of a person's life. The flame represents the eternal truth of God. The light shining forth represents God's truth shining forth upon the world. For believers to collectively light a candle, represents the sharing and fellowship of faith; and traditionally represents the unity of the individual believers with Christ and the body of believers of Christianity, both in this world and in heaven.

I ask each Godparent and each parent to take one of the candles and light this candle. Then, together, light the center candle for \_\_\_\_\_, as the light of his/her life.

I ask that at the conclusion of this service, each of you keep your candle for this reason:

Should there be a time in \_\_\_\_\_'s future for which he/she faces difficult times of trial, or be called upon to make grave decisions – of hardship or joy, or become lost in spirit – you should, as the duty and obligation you have assumed today – find a quiet place alone to yourself. Light this candle or another and through pray ask for the safekeeping of \_\_\_\_\_ in both body and soul from our Heavenly Father, and the spiritual guidance of the Holy Spirit.

# Prayer of Gratitude

## Officiant:

Let us pray:

Heavenly Father, thank you for bringing \_\_\_\_\_ into this world, into our lives. Thank you for blessing this child and blessing us all with your presence here today. Thank you for bringing this family together to welcome \_\_\_\_\_ to our community in love. Help us to live in your light and integrity every day, so that we may be good role models for \_\_\_\_\_ and all our children. Watch over us so that we may all get home safely today. Amen

## Benediction:

### Officiant:

“The Lord bless you, and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up his countenance on you and give you peace” Numbers 6:24

With abiding confidence and affection, we send you forth on your journey of life. May you be filled with thanks and wonder, humor and fun, hope and perseverance so that you may grow in wisdom and grace.

### *To the guests:*

May God’s blessings rest upon you, may His peace abide with you, and may his presence illuminate your hearts now and forever more. Go in peace.  
Amen