

Baby Blessing #9

Greeting

Officiant:

What you are all about to witness here today is truly a celebration of love, and of life! As _____ is here today, she is new and perfect, with no need of fixing nor cleansing. She is a gift. Her smile, her laughter, and her presence enrich the lives of all who know her. Only half way through her first year here, ___months old, and already she has made the world a better place.

In every birth, blessed is the wonder.
In every creation, blessed is the new beginning.
In every child, blessed is life.
In every hope, blessed is the potential.
In every transition, blessed is the beginning.
In every existence, blessed are the possibilities.
In every love, blessed are the tears.
In every life, blessed is the love.

There are three names by which a person is called:

One which her father and mother call her,
And one which people call her,
And one which she earns for herself.

The best one of these is the one that she/he earns for herself/himself.’

Today we simply give thanks and celebrate all the many wonderful blessings _____ brings and do our best to remember, and be thankful for, the very special role that we all have in her life.

_____ and _____, as you hold your daughter/son will you now reflect on the gratitude and joy in your heart, remembering to be thankful for all that has come to pass, and all that has made it possible for _____ to come to be as well as all of the amazing things that her future shall hold.”

Parents reflect for a moment then kiss their daughter/son.

Parents Vows

Officiant:

____ and _____, the journey of parenthood is one of amazing beauty, this is clear just to look at you both. The love that radiates from and around you and your daughter today shall change over the years. We gather here because it is our wish that _____ grow to be a woman who truly loves her life. You most of all will be her guide on this journey. It is important to provide not only food and clothing to a child but also time and love and respect. So it is only right that this ceremony should include your promise to nurture your daughter in all ways as she grows.

Therefore as a promise to her and a reminder to yourselves as the years pass, I now ask you...

Do you promise to teach _____ not who or what, but how to love, to trust, to respect, and to dream so that she may truly participate in the remarkable journey that is life?

Parents: "Yes."

To be honest about your triumphs and as well as your missteps so that _____ will have the valuable opportunity to learn from your example, yet still be free to learn her own lessons in life?

Parents: "Yes."

That you will value her hopes and dreams and let her know that she will always be welcomed, accepted and loved for who she is and for who she is not?"

Parents: "Yes."

To expose her to a variety of experiences, showing her the beginnings of many a wondrous journey, instilling in her a sense of wonder and passion, and the knowledge that she alone has the power to complete herself?

Parents: "Yes."

Do you promise to hold her close in your hearts always, yet still encourage her to stand on her own when the time comes so that she may discover her own true self?

Parents: "Yes."

Reading Of A Poem

And now a reading of a poem I can Fly (author unknown)

(Can be read by God Parent, relative, friend or officiant)

Some say I can fly on the wind, yet I haven't any wings.
Some have found me floating on the open sea,
yet I cannot swim.
Some have felt my warmth on cold nights,
yet I have no flame.
And though you cannot see me,
I lay between two lovers at the hearth of fireplaces.
I am the twinkle in your child's eyes.
I am hidden in the smile lines of your mother's faces
I am their shield as they guard your home.
Some say I am stronger than steel,
yet I am as fragile as a tear.
Some have never searched for me,
yet I am around them always.
Some say I die with loss, yet I am endless.
And though you cannot hear me,
I dance on the laughter of children.
I am woven into the whispers of passion.
I am in the blessings of Great Grandmothers.
I embrace the cries of newborn babies.
Some say I am a flower, yet I am also the seed.
Some have little faith in me,
yet I will always believe in them.
Some say I cannot cure the ill, yet I nourish the soul.
And though you cannot touch me,
I am the gentle hand of the kind.
I am the fingertips that caress your cheek at night.
I am the hug of a child.
I am love."

Charge To Godparents

Officiant:

It is often mistakenly thought that the Godparents are the ones who shall raise a child in the event that the parents cannot. But this is not so. Godparents are those who promise they will be there to help the child grow spiritually. Theirs is a place in _____'s life almost like a guardian angel. The promise is one of a physical presence in her life as someone who she knows will always be standing quietly behind her, encouraging her to

make good choices, and sharing with her the lessons they themselves have learned along the way.

_____ and _____ as _____'s parents the duty to safeguard her future is yours. Have you chosen those who will aid you in giving love and council to your child as she grows?"

_____ and _____: "We Have."

"We have chosen _____ and _____

Mother or father say: Because these are two very special people in both of our lives, They have both have been there through all we have gone through to get to this day and have been by our side, all the way."

Godparents come forward

Officiant:

"While you are not _____'s parents the place that you have both taken in her life is an important one. _____ and _____ trust your motivations and your judgment completely and they take comfort in knowing that although there will be times when _____ cannot come to them, that she will always be able to come to you for guidance and support. By accepting the role of Godparent you say to _____ and the world. I promise, I will be there for you as you grow into womanhood/manhood.

With this in mind I now ask you...

Godparents Vows

Will you as best as you can, help take care of _____?

To protect her at all times from harm?

To encourage, guide and support her in all her endeavors,

Help her recognize the beauty within herself and all things,

And to become someday not the woman/man we wish for her/him but the realization of her/his own hopes, dreams and the fulfillment of her/his soul?"

Godparents: "We will."

"May you always know how special you are to _____ and _____ that they would ask you to tend to the most precious thing that they have in this world.."

Pledge Of Support

Officiant:

The Godparents _____ & _____ do not stand alone this day, for their role is a special one the presence and support of all of you, family and friends, is needed for (Child) _____ to grow strong and balanced.

Each of you possess such beautiful qualities, and strength of character that have been a blessing to (Parent's) _____ and _____ life. Today we ask that you acknowledge your acceptance of the task of providing a supportive community to (Child) _____. Through your presence and example, you will help her/him discover her own extraordinary talents and contribute them towards a better world. There are many paths, and each must find their own. So do you agree teach young (Child) _____ all the things you know to be true in your heart, so that when she/he is fully grown, she shall discover her own truths. She/He will know which path is hers/his and shall travel it with joy. Do you so accept this responsibility?"

Guests: "We do."

Blessing

Officiant:

Our Lord God,

You have blessed this family with a new life,
May the gift of _____'s presence bring joy and gladness
to the hearts of all who love her.

May she be blessed and protected
through all of the wonderful
and difficult things that they years will bring.

May she find goodness and inspiration, and be given
the wisdom to discern the true from the transient,

May her life be rich and full,
in wealth that is measured by both the physical
and spiritual context of her existence

May _____ be prosperous in all ways.

May she love well and be well loved.

Through each passage and season,

May she always be surrounded
by the warmth of family and friends.

And may her days be forever filled with love and happiness.

Amen

A Reading By A Family Member

“On Children” from The Prophet
by Kahlil 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,
but seek not to make them like you.
For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.
You are the bows from which your children
as living arrows are sent forth.
The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite,
and bends you with might that the arrows
may go swift and far.
Let your bending in the Archer’s hand be for gladness;
For even as the Archer loves the arrow that flies,
so the Archer also loves the bow that is stable.”

Closing Words

An “Irish Baby Blessing.”

“May all the blessing of our Lord touch your life today.
May He send His little angels to protect you on your way.
Such a miraculous gift, sent from above.
Someone so precious to cherish and love.
May sunshine and moonbeams dance over you head.
As you quietly slumber in your bed.
May good luck be with you wherever you go.
And your blessings outnumber the shamrocks that grow.”

Mother says: “May you know blessings of love family and friendship in your life that we have had in ours.”

Father says: “Ladies and gentlemen, dear friends and family,
Our daughter/son (Child’s name) _____!”