

The Administration of
The Sacrament of Holy Baptism
and
The Sacrament of Confirmation
And Reception



The International Communion of The Charismatic Episcopal Church

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism and the Sacrament of Confirmation may be done alone but are normally done as part of the Celebration of Holy Communion.

When done in conjunction with The Holy Communion, the service will begin following the Sermon; in Confirmation following the Sermon and Nicene Creed. In the Sacrament of Baptism, the Nicene Creed may be omitted.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Holy Baptism customarily begins with the Order for the Holy Communion, and after the Sermon, the Deacon (if there is one) invites the Candidate for Holy Baptism and the Parents, and Godparents, and Sponsors to come forward. If there is no Deacon, the Priest will say the parts assigned to the Deacon.

There shall be for every Child to be baptized, when they can be had, one Godfather and one Godmother, who are not the Parents of the Child.

The Priest may be vested in cassock, surplice and violet stole, or alb and violet stole, and at his discretion a cope.

Those who are to be baptized, with their Godparents, shall meet the Priest at the Font, if there be one, otherwise in such other place in the church customarily used for the service.

V/. In the Name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

R/. Amen

The candidate, being a child unable to answer for himself, is presented by the Parents and Godparents. If the candidate is an adult, the Godparents and Sponsors will also make the following presentation:

Deacon: Let those to be baptized come forward.

Parents and Godparents and Sponsors: I present _(name)_ to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

The Priest shall address the Godparents on this wise.

Beloved in the Lord, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father to witness the Sacrament of Holy Baptism by which this child (*person*) is to be made a member of Christ's Body, the Church. By the working of this holy sacrament, ordained by Jesus Christ Himself, *he* will die to sin and be raised to newness of life, receiving the fullness of God's grace that *he* may faithfully serve Him all the days of *his* life.

Priest: What do you ask of the Church of God?

Response: Life everlasting in Christ Jesus.

Priest: If you wish for *him* life everlasting keep the commandments. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: You shall love your neighbor as your self.

Then the Priest shall blow softly upon The Child's (Person's) head, saying,

May the Lord impart unto you his Divine Spirit of holiness.

The Priest shall make the sign of the cross on the forehead and breast of the Child (person), saying:

Receive the sign of the Cross on your forehead †, and on your breast †, and may the Lord God help you to keep his commandments, showing them and proving them in all your deeds, that you

may prove worthy to remain in the Church of God. This holy sign is the token of the sons of Christ. Be not ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified, and manfully to fight under his banner, against sin, the world, and the devil; and to continue as Christ's faithful soldier and servant unto your life's end, carrying his Cross with the same meekness shown by Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Let us pray

We beseech You, O Lord God, mercifully to hear our prayers, and accept this Child (Servant) *N.....*. By the sign of your glorious Cross may *he* be endued with lasting virtue, and by adhering to your commandments, may *he* deserve the rich reward of your eternal mercies; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then placing his right hand upon the Child's (Person's) head, the Priest shall say,

Let us pray

Almighty and everlasting God, our heavenly Father, we give you humble thanks, that you have vouchsafed to call us to the knowledge of your grace, and faith in You; increase this knowledge, and confirm this faith in us evermore. Give Your Holy Spirit to this Child (person), that *he* may be born again, and be made an heir of everlasting salvation; through our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with You, and the same Holy Spirit, now and forever. *Amen*

The Priest shall take a little salt between his fingers, and shall place it in the mouth of the child (Person), saying:

Receive the salt of wisdom: may it be unto you a pledge to everlasting life. *Amen*

Let us pray.

O God of our fathers, fountainhead of all truth, we humbly beseech You graciously to accept this Child (*Person*) and grant unto *him* fervent devotion, fortifying hope, and holy joy in Your service, that once purified of all spots of sin in this baptism of regeneration, *he* may, with the company of Your faithful, prove worthy of the everlasting reward which You have promised us, Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Then the Deacon shall say:

Hear the words of the Gospel, written by Saint John, in the third Chapter, at the first verse.

There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

R/. Thanks be to thee. O Lord.

Then the Deacon (Priest in the absence of a Deacon) shall lead the People present in reciting the Apostles' Creed.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I 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. AMEN.

The Priest shall then place the left end of his stole upon the Child (Person), saying:

Enter into the Church of God, that you may share with our Lord Jesus Christ, the everlasting life.
Amen.

The Priest shall speak to the Sponsors, and to such Adults as are to be baptized. If it is a child unable to answer for himself, the Priest shall say

Priest: Well beloved, you have come to present this child to receive Holy Baptism. We have prayed that our Lord Jesus Christ will vouchsafe to receive *him*, to release *him* from sin, to sanctify *him* with the Holy Spirit, to give *him* the Kingdom of heaven and everlasting life. In the name of and on behalf of this child

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For an adult or older child able to answer for himself, the Priest proceeds from this point:

Priest: Well beloved, you have come here desiring to receive Holy Baptism. We have prayed that our Lord Jesus Christ will vouchsafe to receive you, to release you from sin, to sanctify you with the Holy Ghost, to give you the Kingdom of heaven, and everlasting life.

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Do you renounce the devil and all his works, the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer: I renounce them all: and, by God's help, will endeavor not to follow, nor be led by them.

Priest: Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer: I renounce them all; and by God's help will endeavor not to follow, nor be led by them.

Priest: Do you renounce all sinful desires of the flesh that draw you from the love of God?

Answer: I renounce them all.

Priest: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God?

Answer: I do.

Priest: Do you accept Him, and desire to follow Him as your Lord and Savior?

Answer: I do.

Priest: Do you believe all the Articles of the Christian Faith, as contained in the Apostles' Creed?

Answer: I do.

Priest: Will you be baptized in this faith?

Answer: That is my desire.

Priest: Will you then obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of your life?

Answer: I will, with God's help.

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When the Office is used for Children the Priest shall ask of the Sponsors the following questions.

Priest: Having now, in the name of this Child, you made these promises, will you also on your part take heed that this Child learn the Creeds, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, and all other things which a Christian ought to know and believe to his soul's health?

Answer: I will, with God's help.

Priest: Will you take heed that this Child be brought to the Bishop to be confirmed by him?

Answer: I will, God being my helper.

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Then the Priest shall anoint the Child (Person) with the Oil of Catechumens, in the form of a cross, upon the breast and between the shoulders, saying once,

I anoint † you with oil † of salvation, in the Name † of Christ our Lord, that you may have everlasting life. *Amen.*

Deacon: Let us pray.

O Merciful God, grant that like as Christ died and rose again, so this Child (this thy Servant) may die to sin and rise to newness of life. *Amen.*

Grant that all sinful affections may die in *him*, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in him. *Amen.*

Grant that *he* may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph, against the devil, the world, and the flesh. *Amen.*

Priest: Grant that whosoever is here dedicated to You by our office and ministry, may also be endowed with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded, through Your mercy, O blessed Lord God, who lives, and governs all things, world without end. *Amen.*

V/. The Lord be with you.

R/. And with your spirit.

V/. Lift up your hearts.

R/. We lift them up unto the Lord.

V/. Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

R/. It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should give thanks unto You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, for that Your dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed out of his most precious side both water and blood; and gave commandment to his disciples that they should go teach all nations and baptize them in the Name

of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Regard, we beseech You, the supplications of this congregation: SANCTIFY † THIS WATER to the mystical washing away of sin; and grant that this Child (this Your Servant), now to be baptized there in, may receive the fulness of Your grace, and ever remain in the number of Your faithful children; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit be all honor and glory, now and evermore. *Amen.*

The Priest shall change his stole (and cope) from violet to white. He shall cause the Godparents to hold the Child and shall say unto them,

Priest: NAME THIS CHILD (Person)

The Godparent shall say the name or names of the Child. The Priest shall repeat the name of the Child after them, and shall thrice pour water upon him, saying,

N. . . . I BAPTIZE THEE IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER †, AND OF THE † SON, AND OF THE HOLY † SPIRIT. Amen.

But NOTE, that if the person to be baptized is an adult the Priest shall take him by the hand, and shall ask the Witnesses the Name; and then shall thrice pour water upon him, using the same form.

In keeping with ancient tradition, the Priest shall here anoint the Child (Person) with holy Chrism on the crown of the head, saying once,

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has regenerated you with water and the Holy Spirit; and Who has given you remission of your sins, anoint † you with the Chrism of salvation, that you may have life everlasting through the same Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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THE FOLLOWING IS OPTIONAL:

Here the Priest shall place upon the Child (Person) the white vesture commonly called Chysom, saying,

Receive this white vesture, a token of innocency bestowed upon you, and a symbol whereby you are admonished to give your self to pureness of living, that after this transitory life you may be a partaker of life everlasting. *Amen.*

A lighted candle shall be given to every Godparent; to the baptized person, if an Adult, saying

Receive the light of Christ, that when the bridegroom cometh, you may go forth with all the saints to meet him, and see that you keep the grace of your Baptism.

The Priest shall sprinkle the Child (Person) the Godparents and other people present with holy water, saying,

Shower Your grace upon us, purge us with hyssop and we shall be clean; wash us and we shall be whiter than snow. Glory be to the Father, by whose omnipotence we were created in his image; Glory be to the Son by whose mercy our sins have been forgiven; Glory be to the Holy Spirit, by whose wisdom we are given the light of faith.

People: Glory be to the Blessed Trinity. *Amen.*

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Then the Deacon (or Priest) shall lead the People present in reciting the Lord's Prayer, all kneeling,

Let us pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Priest: We yield You hearty thanks, most merciful Father, that it has pleased You to regenerate this Child (this thy Servant) with Your Holy Spirit, to receive him for Your own Child, and to incorporate him into Your holy Church. And humbly we beseech You to grant, that he, being dead unto sin, may live unto righteousness, and being buried with Christ in his death, may also be a partaker of his resurrection; so that finally, with the residue of Your holy Church, he may be an inheritor of Your everlasting kingdom; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

At the discretion of the Priest, that which follows may be said as an exhortation to the Parents and Godparents.

My beloved Parents, Godfathers and Godmothers of this Child,

Holy Church commands me to remind you of your duties to this Child; to raise him by the teachings of the Gospel, that in due time, he may willingly ratify the pledge that you have now given in his name, and make *his* personal acceptance of Jesus Christ as *his* savior.

You shall keep *him* far from evil and all possible temptations. "Woe unto those that give scandal to these little children," said the Lord, because scandal and wrong examples are fatal to tender creatures. You shall therefore bring *him* up in the love of God, in charity with *his* neighbors, and in purity of life, because, as says the Lord, "Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, shall not enter therein."

May God bless this Child, that *he* may grow into fulness of life; and you, Parents and Godparents, may God reward you for this holy action with richness of life, and strengthen you with the might of his spirit, that Christ may fill you with the fulness of God.

Then shall the Priest ask the Godparents to kneel.

V/. Blessed be the Name of the Lord.

R/. From this time forth for evermore.

THE BLESSING

The blessing of God Almighty, the † Father, the † Son, and the † Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

(If the Baptism takes place as part of The Liturgy of Holy Communion, the service continues either with the Confession or the Passing of the Peace)

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION
OR
LAYING ON OF HANDS UPON THOSE BAPTIZED
AND COME TO YEARS OF DISCRETION

The Sacrament of Confirmation is usually done in the context of the Holy Communion and comes at the conclusion of the Sermon and the Nicene Creed.

Upon coming to years of discretion, the children shall ratify before the Bishop those things they were bound to believe and do, which were undertaken for them by their Sponsors in their Baptism. Upon the day appointed, all that are to be confirmed shall stand before the Bishop who, vested with alb, white stole, cope, and mitre and holding his staff, shall, after bowing before the Cross, sit in his chair, and signing himself, say:

Bishop: In the Name of the Father, and of † the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

EXHORTATION TO THOSE TO BE CONFIRMED

Bishop: My beloved Children of God:

Your parents or sponsors being faithful Christians brought you to Baptism by which you became the Sons and Daughters of God and members of Christ's Holy Church. They did this for your own good and benefit, that your eyes may be opened to the Faith of the Lord. At Baptism you died unto sinfulness and were born again by Water and the Holy Spirit to righteousness and innocence of life. Now you come to assume for yourself what was done for you by your parents, godparents and sponsors.

In ministering the Sacrament of Confirmation the Church follows the example of the Apostles. For in the eight chapter of the Acts of the Apostles we read this:

“Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit: (For as yet He was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.” (Acts 8:14-17)

Holy Scripture teaches us that in Confirmation there is both an outward sign, which is the laying on of hands with prayer, and an inward grace, which is the strengthening gift of the Holy Spirit. On the day of Pentecost the apostles received the Holy Spirit as the Lord had promised. They also received the power to give the Holy Spirit to others, completing the work of baptism. This we read in the Acts of the Apostles. When Saint Paul placed his hands on those who had been baptized, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they began to speak in other languages and in prophetic words. Saint Peter and Saint John prayed for the Holy Spirit to be given to the baptized in Samaria and manifestations of His outpouring caused excitement among observers. Bishops, being in succession to the Apostles, follow in their footsteps to pray for the impartation of the Holy Spirit to the baptized.

The anointing of the Holy Spirit, which you are to receive, will be a spiritual sign and seal to make you more like Christ and more perfect member of His Church. At His baptism by John, Christ Himself was anointed by the Spirit and sent out on His public ministry to set the world on fire. You have been born again in Christ by Baptism and you have become *a* member of Christ and His royal 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 witnesses to His passion, death, and resurrection. The anointing of the Holy Spirit will empower you to be an active member of the Church and through the exercise of your spiritual gifts to build up the Body of Christ in faith and love.

In order that this congregation may be assured that you who are to be confirmed steadfastly purpose to confess the faith of Christ crucified and to serve loyally under his banner; and that you yourselves may ever have printed in your remembrance what is your calling and how greatly you need the continued help of the Holy Spirit, the Church has thought good to order that, before you receive the laying on of hands, you shall openly acknowledge yourselves bound to fulfill the Christian duties to which Holy Baptism has pledged you.

Are you prepared to ratify publicly the manifest will of your parents or sponsors to enter into the life of the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ?

Answer: I am so prepared, the Lord being my helper.

Bishop: Do you here, in the presence of God, and of this congregation, renew the solemn promise and vow that you made, or that was made in your name, at your baptism; ratifying and confirming the same and acknowledging yourselves bound to believe and to do all those things which you then undertook, or your Sponsors then undertook for you?

Answer: I do.

Bishop: Do you promise to follow Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?

Answer: I do.

Bishop: May the Holy Spirit descend upon you and may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ preserve you from sin.

Answer: Amen.

Then the Bishop stands, takes off the mitre, and proceeds with the following:

Bishop: Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

Answer: Who has made heaven and earth.

Bishop: Blessed be the Name of the Lord.

Answer: Henceforth, world without end.

Bishop: Lord, hear my prayer.

Answer: And let our cry come unto You.

Bishop: Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, who did vouchsafe to regenerate these Your servants by Water and the Holy Spirit, and has given them forgiveness of all their sins; Strengthen them, we beseech You, O Lord, with the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, and daily increase in them Your sevenfold gifts of grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Answer: Amen.

Then the Bishop shall extend his hands toward those to be confirmed, saying:

Bishop: Receive the Spirit of Wisdom.

Answer: Amen.

Bishop: The Spirit of Understanding.

Answer: Amen.

Bishop: The Spirit of Counsel.

Answer: Amen.

Bishop: The Spirit of Ghostly strength.

Answer: Amen.

Bishop: The Spirit of Knowledge.

Answer: Amen.

Bishop: The Spirit of true Godliness.

Answer: Amen.

Bishop: Fill them with the Spirit of Your Holy Fear, now and forever. *Answer:* Amen.

Bishop: Let us pray.

Defend, O Lord, these Your children with Your heavenly grace, that they may continue Yours forever, and daily increase in Your Holy Spirit more and more, until they come unto Your everlasting kingdom.

Answer: Amen.

Then the Bishop shall be seated and shall put on the mitre; those to be confirmed shall kneel before him; or he, with mitre on and staff in hand, shall approach the lines of those to be confirmed, and lay his hands upon each severally and shall anoint them with the holy Chrism on their forehead in the form of the Cross, saying:

***Bishop:* I SIGN YOU WITH SIGN OF THE † CROSS, AND CONFIRM YOU WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS, IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. Amen.**

The Bishop shall slightly slap the cheek of each child, right after the signing with holy Chrism, saying:

Bishop: PEACE BE UNTO YOU.

The Bishop shall wash his hands; the Choir shall sing a Hymn or the people say the following:

PSALM 1. *Beatus vir qui non abiit.*

1. Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

2. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

3. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

4. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

5. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

6 For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

The washing of the hands being done and all devoutly kneeling, the Bishop shall remove the mitre, and say:

Bishop: Show us thy mercy, O Lord.

Answer: And grant us thy salvation.

Bishop: Lord, hear our prayer.

Answer: And let our cry come unto thee.

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

Answer: And with your spirit.

Let us pray.

O HEAVENLY Father, who imparted Your Holy Spirit to Your Apostles, and through them and towards the paths of righteousness; Have mercy upon these Your children: confirm and impress in their hearts what outwardly we have impressed on their foreheads with the holy Chrism in the form of the holy Cross, and grant that Your Holy Spirit may abide with them that they may be made worthy and living temples of the same, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Answer: Amen.

THE BLESSING

Then the Bishop puts on the mitre, and taking his staff continues as follows:

Bishop: The Blessing of God Almighty, the † Father, the † Son, and the Holy † Ghost, be upon you, and remain with you forever.

Answer: Amen.

(The Eucharist resumes with either the Confession or the Passing of the Peace)

=====FOR RECEPTION=====

Each person who has been Confirmed by a Bishop in Apostolic Succession and being Received into this Communion will kneel before the Bishop, or the Bishop going to each one says while making the sign of the Cross using Holy Chrism:

Bishop: We recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of the International Communion of the Charismatic Episcopal Church. † God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. Receive a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit to empower you for service to God and His Church. *Amen.*

Then the Bishop extends his hands over all newly received and prays:

Almighty and everliving God, let Your fatherly hand ever be over these Your servants; let Your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of Your Word, that they may serve You in this life, and dwell with You in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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The Peace is then exchanged:

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And with your spirit.*

The Service continues with the Celebration of the Holy Communion, beginning with the Offertory

=====Disclaimer=====

These services were compiled from services according to the Iglesia Filipina Independiente Order, the Book of Common Prayer, the Anglican Missal, and the Northeast CEC Sacramentary. They may be used as printed, or edited according to the instruction of the Ordinary. They are not “Official” CEC, but they were the Orders used by Bishop Weeks when he was the supervising Bishop in Africa, and used in parts of the Charismatic Episcopal Church.