

# ¶ Welcome of Those Preparing for the Baptism of Children

## Welcome

*The minister may address the congregation*

Today we welcome *N and N, and N and N*, who are preparing for the baptism of their *children N and N*. As the people of God in this place, will you welcome *these children* and support *their families* by your prayers and fellowship as they prepare for *their children's* baptism?

*All* **With the help of God, we will.**

*A large candle is lit.*

*The minister may ask the parents, godparents and sponsors to come forward with their children and says, in these or other suitable words*

We thank God for his presence in your *lives*  
and for the grace that has brought you here today.

Baptism is the sign of new life in Christ. You share with us the responsibility for encouraging *these children* in the new life that Jesus Christ offers to us all. Will you pray for *these children*, and help *them* to grow in the knowledge and love of God and to take *their* place in the life and worship of the Church?

**With the help of God, we will.**

*The minister says*

Eternal and loving God,  
you have promised that those who seek will find you;  
we pray for your blessing on *these families*  
as they prepare for the baptism of *N and N*,  
that they may walk together in the Way of Christ.  
By your grace, may *N and N* become your *children*  
and take *their* place within the community of your Church,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*The minister may introduce and commission the godparents and sponsors using these or other suitable words*

*N and N*, you have been asked to nurture *these children* as they grow in faith.

May God bring you joy as you hold *them* in his love,  
and walk with *them* on the Way of Christ.

May you be a blessing to one another,  
and may the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. Amen.