Baptismal Promises

**All:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Leader 1:** We have learned that it was Jesus who established the Catholic Church. Before his Ascension into Heaven, he commissioned his disciples to go forth and share his teaching with all nations. As we hear the words spoken to the disciples, let us listen for our own calling.

**Leader 2:** The eleven disciples went to Galilee to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

(Mark 16:15–19)

The Word of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Leader 1:** We too are called by Jesus. When he speaks to the disciples on that mountain, he speaks to each one of us. As baptized members of this Church, we are commissioned to be witnesses to others.

**Leader 2:** Let us remember that we are children of God by renewing the promises made at our Baptism.

Do you reject Satan?

**All:** I do.

**Leader 1:** And all his works?

**All:** I do.

**Leader 2:** And all his empty promises?

**All:** I do.

**Leader 1:** Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth?

**All:** I do.

**Leader 2:** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

**All:** I do.

God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, gives us the gift of new life through the waters of Baptism and the Holy Spirit. Let us be witnesses of his love as we go forth into the world. To our heavenly Father, we pray. Amen.
The Holy Trinity

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Leader: Gathered as a community of believers, let us listen to God’s Word. Open your hearts to his message of love and community.

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” (Luke 3:21–22)

The Word of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: Let us now express our praise and thanksgiving for all that we have been given by our loving God. That through our Baptism, we become members of a loving family of believers.

All: Praise God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Leader: That God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a community of Persons united in love.

All: Praise God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Leader: That we come to know God through the Holy Trinity by his words and actions.

All: Praise God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Leader: That God made us in his image and likeness.

All: Praise God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Leader: That through the Trinity, we are united with one another in love. We are not alone.

All: Praise God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Leader: We make known this important truth of our faith each time we make the Sign of the Cross. God, help us be aware of the powerful message we share as we pray.

All: Praise God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
Jesus Our Redeemer

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: In the beginning, Adam and Eve chose to disobey God. Their action brought sin into the world. This Original Sin separates us from God. Let us reflect together on the condition of sin in the world brought about by Adam and Eve and repaired by Christ.

All: But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Leader: For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead came also through a human being.

All: For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life. [ . . . ]

Leader: For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

All: The last enemy to be destroyed is death. (1 Corinthians 15:20–22,25–27)

Leader: Original Sin causes our idea of God to be lost. We become afraid, and our judgment is clouded. Death is our greatest fear. But Jesus is our Redeemer! Jesus opened the way back to God. His model of a perfect life repaired the damage done by the sin of Adam and Eve.

All: Thank you, Jesus, for being our Redeemer.

Leader: The job does not end with Jesus. We continue this work in our daily lives. Take a few moments now to reflect on ways you can be the hands and feet of Christ in the world today. Speak to God quietly now in your heart.

All: Merciful God, you sent your Son, Jesus, to save us from sin. Please guide us in our actions so that we may continue his service of love and goodness on earth. Through our lives, let others come to know you better. Strengthen us through the Eucharist, and give us the grace to be faithful disciples all the days of our lives. Amen.
Litany of Saints

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: The saints are models of how to live holy lives. We can relate to them and see our own troubles in the trials they faced on earth. We can also learn from their example. Let us ask them now to watch over us in our daily lives.

Leader: Lord, have mercy on us.

All: Lord, have mercy on us.

Leader: Christ, have mercy on us.

All: Christ, have mercy on us.

Leader: Lord, have mercy on us.

All: Lord, have mercy on us.

Leader: Holy Mary, Mother of God

All: Pray for us.

Leader: Saints Peter and Paul

All: Pray for us.

Leader: Saint Patrick

All: Pray for us.

Leader: Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

All: Pray for us.

Leader: Saint Ignatius of Loyola

All: Pray for us.

Leader: Saint Pius X

All: Pray for us.

Leader: Saint Mary McKillop

All: Pray for us.

Leader: Saint Francis of Assisi

All: Pray for us.

Leader: These saints remind us that there are many ways to holiness. Let us reflect on this as we read these words of Scripture.

“The in my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be.” (John 14:2–3)

All: Loving God, help us follow in the footsteps of your saints and live holy lives of service giving honor and glory to you. We thank you for the gift of their example and pray that they will intercede on our behalf. In your name, we pray. Amen.
Celebrating the Eucharist

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader 1: Gathered as a community of believers, let us listen to God’s word spoken to us through Scripture.

_For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over, took bread, and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”_ (1 Corinthians 11:23–26)

Leader 2: In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

Leader 1: The Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith. We believe it is the center of who we are and what we believe. Jesus gives himself to us in Holy Communion. We celebrate the Paschal Mystery, the suffering, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus.

All: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

Leader 2: Jesus saved us from sin and restored our friendship with God.

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.

Leader 1: We will never fully understand this. We can only do our best to live a life that reflects the love and mercy we have received from God. We can be a witness to others of his great gift to mankind.

All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Leader: Spend a moment in quiet reflection thanking God for the gift of his Son, Jesus.

All: Generous God, you gave us your Son that we may once again be in friendship with you. Help us feel his presence in our hearts, especially when we receive the Eucharist. With your grace, strengthen us and make us true disciples of Jesus, your Son. Amen.
Holy Spirit, Hear Our Prayer

**All:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Leader:** Let us listen together as a community of believers to the words of Scripture.

[They asked Peter and the other apostles, “What are we to do, my brothers?” Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the holy Spirit.”](Acts of the Apostles 2:37–38)

**All:** Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

**Leader:** In the Sacrament of Confirmation, we invite the Holy Spirit to come into our lives.

**All:** And kindle in them the fire of his love.

**Leader:** The Gifts of the Holy Spirit—wisdom, understanding and counsel—give us powerful tools to live God’s plan for our lives.

**All:** Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created.

**Leader:** Fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord.

**All:** And we will renew the face of the earth.

**Leader:** The Holy Spirit brings the power of God and the constant presence of Jesus Christ into our lives.

**All:** Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit you have taught the hearts of your faithful.

**Leader:** Let this light shine on us all.

**All:** In the same Spirit help us to relish what is right and always rejoice in your consolation.

**Leader:** For we know that you are with us always, in times of joy and in times of sorrow. Grace us with your presence. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.
Heal Us, O Lord

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: Gathered together in prayer, let us begin by hearing the words of Jesus in Scripture.

*After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at the customs post. He said to him, “Follow me.” And leaving everything behind, he got up and followed him. Then Levi gave a great banquet for him in his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were at table with them. The Pharisees and their scribes complained to his disciples, saying, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?” Jesus said to them in reply, “Those who are healthy do not need a physician, but the sick do. I have not come to call the righteous to repentance but sinners.”*  
(Luke 5:27–32)

All: Lord, give me the courage to follow you.

Leader: We all have difficulties. We are all broken or sick or not whole. God loves us anyway. God always does. Let us ask for his help as we struggle through the trials of our lives.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: That those who are physically ill will know the comfort of your mercy and have the courage to deal with what ails them.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: That those who are struggling with mental and emotional illness will be wrapped in your loving arms and find peace.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: That all who know the pain and separation caused by sin will want to reconcile with you and once again experience the joy of your friendship.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For those who suffer in ways known only to you. May they be comforted by your gentle touch.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord, give us the courage to follow you.

All: We need you, Lord. Hear our prayers and come to heal us with your limitless love. We welcome you into our hearts. Amen.
Giving Ourselves to God and Others

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: Open your hearts to the word of God as he speaks to us today in Scripture.

One of the scribes, when he came forward and heard them disputing and saw how well he had answered them, asked him, “Which is the first of all the commandments?” Jesus replied, “The first is this: ‘Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”  
(Mark 12:28–31)

The Word of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: How do you love God? Reflect for a moment on the ways you praise and worship. In what ways do you show God how much you love him?

All: Dear Lord, help me always to put you first. I know that sometimes I am distracted. I choose my own desires over what I know to be right. I want to do better. Give me strength.

Leader: How do you love your neighbor? Reflect for a moment on ways you show others care and compassion. In what ways do you show your neighbor how much he or she is loved?

All: Loving Father, it’s easy to love those who are kind and considerate. But even then I sometimes put myself first. Help me remember that every person is made in your likeness and image. I want to be like Jesus. Open my heart. Help me become more loving and compassionate—to be Christ’s hands and feet on earth.

Leader: Let us pray for the virtues of faith, hope, charity, prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance. May God grant us the strength to be chaste, generous, grateful, zealous, gentle, and humble.

All: Gentle Lord, as we prepare for Confirmation, help us practice these virtues and grow to become more loving. Thank you for your love and compassion. May we always be open to accepting your love and willing to share it with others. In your name, we pray. Amen.
Works of Mercy

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: In Jesus we have the perfect example of who God is. By following his actions and teachings, we can become more like him. Let us listen now to the words of our Lord and take to heart the message he shares with us today.

And the crowds asked [Jesus], “What then should we do?” He said to them in reply, “Whoever has two tunics should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise.” (Luke 3:10–11)

The Word of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: Lord, when did I see you hungry or naked?

All: Open my eyes to the needs of those who are struggling to survive. Help me find ways to correct the injustices that lead to so many having so little. I will work to feed the hungry and give clothing to those in need.

Leader: Lord, when did I see you homeless?

All: So many in the world are lost. They are alone. They have no one to protect them from trials and hardships. Lord, help me offer shelter, both physical and emotional, to those who are left alone to weather the storms of life.

Leader: Lord, when were you sick or imprisoned?

All: Prison walls come in many forms. Sickness has many symptoms. Make me aware of those who suffer and struggle against pains and imprisonment, no matter what their form. Help me offer comfort and care.

Leader: Lord, what can I do for the dead?

All: Dignity and respect are deserved by all. Help me find ways to offer these to those who need them. With my prayers, make me available to the deceased and those whom they leave behind.

Leader: Lord, what else can I offer to those in need?

All: I will continue to learn more about my faith so that I can be a source of help, counsel, comfort, and patience for all whom I meet. Guide me in my journey. Keep me focused on you, O Lord.

In your name, we pray. Amen.
Lord, Teach Us to Pray

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: When we are in need, we go to our heavenly Father in prayer. Gathered here together today, let us listen to his words as he speaks to us about prayer through Scripture.

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.”

(Matthew 7:7–8)

The Word of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: Let us pause for a moment to think of all the ways you pray. When do you adore Christ? What do you request and how often do you ask for intercession? Do you praise and thank God?

All: Lord, teach me to pray.

Leader: Jesus gave us the words of prayer. He taught us how to speak to his Father.

All: Lord, teach us to pray.

Leader: Our Father, who art in heaven,

All: Dear God, you are our heavenly Father. You gave us life. Let us enter now into your presence.

Leader: Hallowed be thy name.

All: We worship you and know you are holy.

Leader: Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

All: Help us know your love and align our will with yours.

Leader: Give us this day our daily bread.

All: We depend on you.

Leader: Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

All: Give us mercy and make us merciful.

Leader: Lead us not into temptation.

All: Make us strong in the face of sin.

Leader: Deliver us from evil.

All: Free us from misery. Amen.

Leader: Now let us pray together as Jesus taught us.

All: Our Father, . . .