

**VARIOUS TEXTS FOR USE IN THE  
CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM FOR CHILDREN**

**SCRIPTURAL READINGS**

**A Reading from the Prophet Ezekiel 36:24-28**

*Clean water, a new heart, a renewed spirit.*

The Lord says this: I am going to take you from among the nations and gather you together from all the foreign countries, and bring you home to your own land. I shall pour clean water over you and you will be cleansed; I shall cleanse you of all your defilement and all your idols. I shall give you a new heart, and put a new spirit in you; I shall remove the heart of stone from your bodies and give you a heart of flesh instead. I shall put my spirit in you, and make you keep my laws and sincerely respect my observances. You will live in the land which I gave your ancestors. You shall be my people and I will be your God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**A Reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans 6:3-5**

*Baptism: a sharing in Christ's death and resurrection.*

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

If in union with Christ we have imitated his death, we shall also imitate him in his resurrection.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**A Reading from the first Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 12:12-13**

*Baptised in one Spirit to form one body.*

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**A Reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Galatians 3:26-28**

*Now that you have been baptised you have put on Christ.*

You are, all of you, sons and daughters of God through faith in Christ Jesus. All baptised in Christ, you have all clothed yourselves in Christ, and there are no more distinctions between Jew and Greek, slave and free, male and female, but all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

**A Reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 4:1-6**

*One Lord, one faith, one baptism.*

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all over all, through all and within all.

This is the Word of the Lord