

THE CHURCH OF SOUTH INDIA

ORDER OF THANKS GIVING AFTER CHILDBIRTH

&

ORDER FOR HOLY BAPTISM

CSI PARISH DUBAI



ORDER FOR THANKS GIVING AFTER CHILDBIRTH

This thanksgiving may be made at a public service of the church. The mother and father, bringing the newly born child, kneel before the holy table, or at some other convenient place, and the minister facing says:

Almighty God has been good to you in giving you the gift of a child; and has safely brought the mother and the child through the critical time of child birth. Let us all therefore thank and praise God together.

The minister and parents together with the congregation say the following psalm responsively:

Psalm 145: 1 – 8

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness.

They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness, and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Glory be to the father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end. Amen

For the gift of human love and family life; let us bless the Lord

Thanks be to God.

For God's creation and for our share in his creative work, and for all his gifts to us, of which he has made us stewards, and particularly for this child, let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For the birth and safe delivery of this child, let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For the skills and care of all who help at the time of childbirth and for all who support us at such times of need, let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The minister says:

Let us pray:

Almighty God, we give you our heartfelt thanks for your love and mercy in giving this woman, your servant, a safe and happy childbirth. Grant that she, remembering your care and love for her, may never cease to give you thanks and serve you faithfully; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

O God our Lord, by whose creative power and love this woman has been granted the gift of a child, give to her and her husband wisdom and guidance, that they may know how to train their child in the way that leads to eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The parents say:

O God, our father, We give thanks to you for the child whom you have given to us: help us to live together as a family in love, joy and peace: give us wisdom to be good parents that we may all love and serve you faithfully. Amen

The minister says;

Almighty God, help your servants, ----- and -----, who have gladly come to thank you for your goodness, that in caring for their family, they may please you and do your will, and may have the assurance of your ever abiding presence with them, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, holy be your name. Your kingdom come; your will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

The minister dismisses them with this blessing;

The blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon your going out and your coming in; upon your talking and upon your silence; upon your prayers and upon your work; upon your home and upon your fellowship therein, this day, henceforth, and forever. **Amen**

The parents may make a thank offering, and, if there is a service of Holy communion, they may receive the Communion together.

Prayer
Song
Procession

ADORATION OF TRINITY

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts; Heaven and earth are full of your glory: Glory be to you, O Lord most high.

Blessed is he who has Come, and is to Come in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, O God

Holy are you, O God

Holy are you, O Almighty

Holy are you, O Almighty

Holy are you, O Immortal

Holy are you, O Immortal

O Lord our Redeemer who was Crucified for us, have mercy upon us.

O Lord our Redeemer who was Crucified for us, have mercy upon us.

O Lord, Holy Spirit have mercy upon us.

O Lord, Holy Spirit have mercy upon us.

O Lord, accept our prayers and praises have mercy upon us.

O Lord, have Compassion and mercy upon us.

Gospel : St. Mark 10:13-16

Exhortation:

Dearly beloved, Church of South India has two sacraments, Baptism and Holy Communion. Sacrament is the outward sign of the inward grace we receive. Holy Baptism is a sacrament by which we enter into the Holy Church, the Body of Christ, by water and Holy Spirit. The person who receive baptism enter into an eternal and imperishable relationship with the Almighty God.

In Holy Baptism the responsibility of parents and sponsors is very important. When St. Mark narrates the event of Jesus healing the paralytic who was carried by four men, it is recorded that Jesus forgives his sins, by seeing their faith. Here we see that liberation from the bondage of sin follows physical healing. This occurs on account of the faith of those who brought the paralytic to the Lord. Children are unable to profess Jesus Christ as their savior. But the faith of parents and sponsors

is the basis of Children receiving salvation from Jesus Christ.

People were bringing little Children to Jesus in order that he might touch them, and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them; Let the little Children Come to me, and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these (St. Mark 10:13-16). Those Children who are accepted by Christ get salvation and grace. Therefore the sacraments of holy baptism, by which children are made part of the Church, the body of Christ, is an early tradition of the Church fully based on the Scripture.

The word of God emphatically declares that there is only one Baptism (Ephesians 4:4-6). Apart from the creed we do profess that there is only one baptism for the remission of Sins. Hence Holy Baptism is a Sacrament we receive only once in life. No one has the right to nullify the significance of baptism once we received. Salvation is God's gift and the teaching that it will not be given to a Child is sinful. Because such teaching is merely unbiblical and it causes disbelief in and despises the divine gift of salvation.

Song:

(The Minister parents, sponsors, with the child are Coming nearer to the baptismal font)

Minister: I ask you has this Child been baptized before?

Answer: No

Minister: Dearly beloved in Christ, All human beings right from birth are inclined to sin. But our loving God wants every one to be saved. Jesus Christ the Savior has told us that none can enter into the Kingdom of God unless he/she is born a new of water and spirit. Therefore let us pray to God the father through Jesus our Lord that God in the abundance of His grace would grant this child what he/she cannot have by nature, and he/she, having been incorporated into the holy Church of the Lord through the baptism of water and spirit, would become its living organ.

(All join),

Almighty and eternal God, our heavenly Father we humbly thank you for calling us in to the faith in you and the knowledge of your grace. Help us to increase this knowledge and confirm this faith in us. May this child be given your Holy Spirit. This we ask through our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy spirit now and forever. Amen.

Dedication and Pledge

(Parents and Sponsors say together)

We Committ this child to Holy Baptism in true dependence to God Almighty.

Minister: Will you bring up this Child who has been dedicated for holy baptism in Christian faith and values? (Parents and Sponsors say together)

We depend and pledge accordingly.

Minister: Dearly beloved, you have broght this Child here for Baptism and pleaded that our Lord Jesus, the Messiah would have a heart to accept him, cleanse him and purify him. Our Lord has promised through Gospel that all your supplications would be fulfilled. He will fulfill all his promises.

First of all he/she should renounce Satan and all the works of the devil.

Secondly he/she would believe God's holy word steadily and progressively.

Thirdly he/she would keep Commandments of God in obedience.

Therefore I ask you,

Will you for this child renounce the devil and all his works to the pride glory and vanity of this world and all its impurity and sinful desires of the flesh in order not to obey them and be led accordingly to them.

Answer: Yes, I renounce them all.

Minister: Will you keep Christian faith and do profess it for this Child.

Answer: Yes, I do.

Let us therefore profess our faith in the words of Apostle's Creed.

All: 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 Ponticus 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 Cathlic Church; The Communion of saint's: The forgiveness of Sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

(Congregation may be seated)

Minister: Will you promise to keep God's holy will and commandments for this Child?

Answer: Yes, I Promise.

Minister: Do you wish this Child to be baptized!

Answer: Yes, I ask it.

(Let us pray in silence for those who are about to be baptized, that they may receive the fulness of God's Grace)

Oh, Merciful God, the old Adam would be buried in order that in this child the new man would be risen in him/her Amen.

Lets all the lusts of the flesh be dead and the things, of the spirit be alive and grow in him/her. Amen.

Let him/her be strengthened to gain victory over satan, world and all flesh and grant the power and strength gracefully. Amen.

Blessed Lord our God, who ives eternally and reigns over everything let every one who have been dedicated here to you by our position and service attain the eternal reward by your grace. Amen.

Thanksgiving over the water

Minister: The Lord be with you

Response: And also be with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts

Response: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Response: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Minister: Almighty and everlasting God it is right and reasonable and our duty to give thanks to you. Because your blessed son our Lord Jesus Christ has commanded usto make disciples of all nations, and to baptize them in the name of the Father and of the son and of the Holy Spirit and

shed blood and water from his precious body for the remission of our sins. May your ears be open to bear the supplications of your people, sanctify this water and grant that this Child now to be baptised in it may die to his/her sinfulness and rise to the new life in union with Christ. May he/she may be filled with your power peace and perfect grace and be elected to the company of your Children as members of the body of Christ. To him to you the Father to the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory to the end of the ages. Amen.

Baptism

(The minister takes the Child in his hands, asked for the Name)

Let Name the Child *(Afterward calling the child by the given name either dip him/her in water or sprinkles it on the child as says the following)*

.....I Baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Minister says over the Child baptized.

Receiving this child into the Messiah's flock, I mark in him/her the Sign of Cross + (mark the sign of cross with water on the forehead of the child) in order that he/she might not be ashamed to confess faith in the crucified Messiah, battle boldly against sin, the world and the devil and remain as faithful soldier of the Lord until his/her last breath.

Song: The parents and the sponsors with the newly baptized child go to altar along with the minister.

The Thanks Giving

Minister: Dearly beloved, Let us give thanks to God the Almighty for the benefits that the child has been born again and received into (the family of the Church of the Lord. Let us pray in unison that this child would live the rest of his/her life according to this wonderful start.

Gracious Lord who has called us for one hope, we thank you for your grace for making us one hope, we thank you for your grace for making us partners of new life in Christ by holy baptism and inheritors of God's Kingdom. Enable us to share this new life in Christ and Shine as lights in the world. This we ask through our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns as the light of the world with the father and the holy spirit now and for ever. Amen.

Merciful Father, we sincerely thank and praise you that it has pleased you to make this child born again by your spirit, and accept him/her as your own child by adoption and make him/her part of your holy Church, Amen.

Lord our God, just as he/she was buried with Christ in his death, we pray that this child would share also in his resurrection and that by serving here in newness of life, he/she would become an inheritor of your eternal Kingdom along with the rest of the members in your holy Church. Amen.

The Minister gives the following exhortation to parents and sponsors.

You who have brought this Child to be baptized into the family of the Church of the Messiah, must teach him/her the creed, the Lord's prayer, the ten commandments, and all other things which a Christian ought to know and believe for the wholeness of his spirit.

See to it that he/she must be brought up in devotion to God and christian life. You should make sure that having strengthened in the gift of holy spirit, he/she will come prepared to receive the holy communion, the body and blood of Christ. You must bring him/her to the Bishop for confirmation in order to serve the Lord faithfully in the fellowship of the Church.

Will you endeavour to do all these things

We will, God being our helper.

Silent Prayer for few minutes, after placing the child in the alter table) (Prayer after giving back the Child to parents).

Almighty God, our heavenly father your beloved son shared in Nazareth the life of an earthly home. Bless the home of this child, and grant wisdom and understanding to his / her parents and to all who shall have the care of him/her that he / she may grow up in steadfast love and reverence of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God who has redeemed us through the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, you have called us to proclaim the advent of your kingdom through baptism. Help us to be faithful witnesses of your love and courage to sustain the spiritual enrichment you have given to the ancient apostles, Let it be given to us, especially to the child who is received through baptism this day into the church through Jesus Christ our redeemer and savior. Amen.

(offertory will be taken from the child).

Lord prayer

Our father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done as it is in heaven in earth. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into

**temptation; But deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom,
the Power and the Glory, For ever and ever. Amen.**

Benediction

To Gods gracious Mercy and protection we commit you. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to Shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace. And the blessing of God almighty the father, the son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Announcements

Song (Recession)

Minister: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Minister: Let us go in peace

People: In the name of our Lord. Amen.

Hymns 346

1. O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come;
Our shelter from the stormy
blast,
And our eternal home.
2. Under the shadow of Thy
throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defence is sure.
3. Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.
4. O God, our help in ages past
Our hope for years to come;
Be Thou our guard while life shall
last,
And our eternal home

Hymns 482

1. Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my
days,
Let them flow in ceaseless
praise
2. Take my hands, and let them
move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.
3. Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my king,
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from
Thee.
4. Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store:

Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all, for Thee

Hymns 294

1. Lead, Kindly Light amid the
encircling gloom
Lead Thou me on:
The night is dark, and I am far
from home;
Lead Thou me on
Keep Thou my feet; I do not
ask to see
The distant scene; one step
enough for me.
2. I was not ever thus, nor prayed
that Thou,
Should'st lead me on;
I Loved to choose and see my
path; but now
Lead Thou me on
I loved the garish day, and spite
of fears,
Pride ruled my will: remember
not past years.
3. So long Thy power hath blest
me, sure it still
Will lead me on
O'er moor and fen, o'er crag
and torrent, till
The night is gone;
And with the morn those angel-
faces smile,
Which I have loved long since
and lost awhile

Hymns 207

1. Have you been to Jesus for
the cleansing power?
Are you washed in the blood
of the Lamb?
Are you fully trusting in His
grace this hour?
Are you washed in the blood
of the Lamb?

*Are you washed ...in the blood
In the soul-cleansing blood of the
Lamb?
Are your garments spotless?
are they white as snow?
Are you washed in the blood of
the Lamb?*
2. Are you walking daily by the
Saviour's side?
Are you washed in the blood
of the Lamb?
Do you rest each moment in
the Crucified?
Are you washed in the blood
of the Lamb?
3. Lay aside the garments that
are stained with sin,
And be washed in the blood
of the Lamb!
There's a fountain flowing for
the soul unclean
Oh, be washed in the blood of
the Lamb!