

New Order of Baptism of Children

In April of 2019 the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments (CDWDS) approved the new Order of Baptism of Children. In June of 2019 Cardinal DiNardo released the Decree of Publication. Five publishers plan to print the new ritual. The revised rite may be used beginning February 2, 2020. Watch the Information Bulletin for availability. Use of the revised rite is mandatory as of April 12, 2020, Easter Sunday. Below is an overview of the revised rite.

Overview

(USCCB Committee on Divine Worship Newsletter, May 2019)

- Chapter and rubric numbers remain the same.
- Chapter VII (Various Texts) includes an option for an extended Litany of Saints.
- The introduction gives explicit descriptions of ritual adaptations for the U.S.
 - The pre-baptismal anointing may be omitted at the minister's discretion.
 - The *Ephphatha* rite may be omitted at the minister's discretion
 - The post-baptismal anointing with chrism is mandatory
 - Adaptations are incorporated throughout the OBC within the rubrics.
- An *Order of Baptism Within Mass* (appendix) is given to encourage consistency.

Changes:

- **Greeting the parents and godparents**- Minister may use a sample text or his own words following the intent of the sample text.
- **Signing the child with the cross**-change of words from "Christian community" to "Church of God" *receives you with great joy...*(Ordered by Pope Benedict XVI, 2013)
- **Acclamation after the baptism**-one option appears in the Order of Baptism, 20 other options are in chapter VII, "Various Texts." (Sing acclamation as settings become available. Your current Gospel acclamation may serve in the meantime.)
- **Explanatory Rites**-new translations but similar to current texts for *Anointing after Baptism; Clothing with a White Garment; Handing on of a Lighted Candle; "Ephphatha"*
- **Solemn Blessings**-new translations for four options
- **Appendix: *The Order of Baptism Within Mass* summary**
 - Entrance Chant and Sign of the Cross
 - Rite of receiving the Child-- replaces the Greeting and Penitential Act from the Order of Mass.
 - Procession moves to the altar
 - Gloria when required
 - Collect prayer
 - Liturgy of the Word
 - After the homily, the Creed is omitted.
 - Prayer of the Faithful
 - Invocation of the saints (See extended Litany of Saints option in Chapter VII.)
 - Prayer of exorcism
 - Anointing with the Oil of Catechumens (optional)
 - Procession to the Baptismal place
 - The Order of Baptism then unfolds through the end of the Explanatory Rites.
 - Preparation of the altar and presentation of the gifts etc.
 - Baptismal solemn blessing, the usual dismissal