

Lord, we ask you to bless all those you call to married life and all lay single people in their daily lives and commitments,

Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord, we ask for the grace to become your evangelising witnesses in thought, word and action,

Lord, hear our prayer.

If anyone would like to offer a prayer intention, please do so ...

... Lord, hear our prayer.

We close our intercessions praying together the Lord's Prayer, *Our Father*...

Final Prayer (2 mins)

As our time of prayer together comes to an end we say together.....

If the Blessed Sacrament IS exposed

Lord Jesus, thank you for this time we have spent in your presence. Thank you for the many gifts you have given us. We ask you to bless all those you have welcomed into your Church through baptism to answer your call with courage and generosity. Confident in your unending love, we place our prayer before you. Amen.

If the Blessed Sacrament is NOT exposed

Loving Father, thank you for this time we have spent in your presence. Thank you for the many gifts you have given us. We ask you to bless all those you have welcomed into your Church through baptism so that they may answer your Son's call with courage and generosity. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Final hymn (optional)

'Jesus answered: "I tell you most solemnly, unless a man is born from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God". Nicodemus said, "How can a grown man be born? Can he go back into his mother's womb and be born again?" Jesus replied: "I tell you most solemnly, unless a man is born through water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God: what is born of the flesh is flesh; what is born of the Spirit is spirit"'.
John 3: 3 - 6

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for Vocation

Called into God's wonderful light



CASE

**Enthusing, Engaging,
Equipping**

Celebrating Baptism A Holy Hour

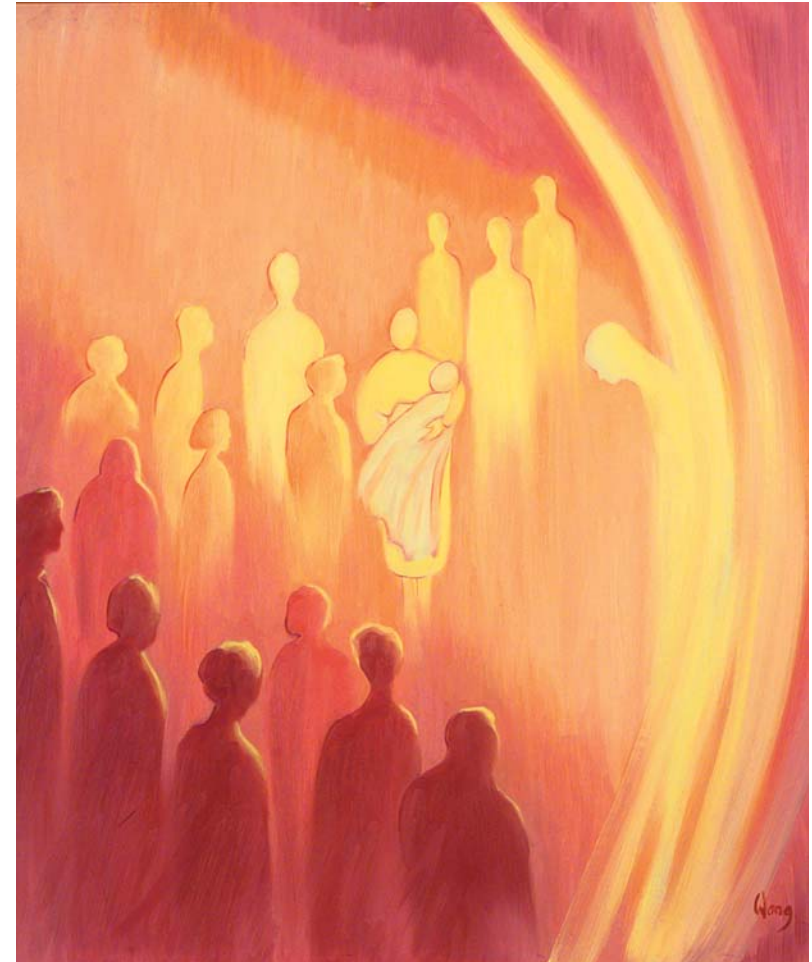


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Booklet Two

Holy Hour Two
Celebrating Baptism

Prayer focus: Tonight's theme is the recognition that we are all precious in the sight of God. We have been invited into a deep relationship with God and each other in the Church through our baptism in Christ.

Suggested hymns:

All that I am, all that I do; Come Lord Jesus, Come; Do not be afraid; I the Lord of sea and sky; O let all who thirst; O wash me in the water; On eagles wings; Send forth your spirit ; Send me Jesus, send me Jesus; Take my life and let it be; Though the mountains may fall; We shall draw water joyfully; Yahweh's love will last forever.

Welcome and introduction

Hymn or music (3 mins)

Scripture reading Genesis 17: 1- 7 (2 mins)

Covenant between God and Abram – that he will be the father of nations

PAUSE (1 min)

Reflection

(Pause after every point)

- Father, we praise and thank you for bringing each one of us into a lasting covenantal relationship with you.
- Father, as the God of Abraham and the prophets, we thank you that since the beginning of time you have called us into your family, to be your sons and daughters.
- As Catholics, we thank you, that through the grace of our baptism we have been marked with a special seal.
- Thank you for this bond which lies at the very heart of who we are.
- Thank you for drawing us into your tender and loving heart.

Silent prayer (5 mins)

Scripture Reading Mark 1:3-11 (2 mins)

Jesus' baptism

PAUSE (1 min)

Reflection (3 mins)

(Pause after every point)

- Let us now bring to mind that scene from the Gospel of Jesus' baptism in the River Jordan.
- We especially ask in this moment, to be renewed in the graces we received at baptism.
- As God's precious children, we too hear God calling us His "beloved", upon whom His favour rests.

Silent prayer (5 mins)

In silence we reflect on how God has consecrated each one of us, through baptism to be his precious child.

Hymn (3 mins)

Gospel reading John 3:3-6 (3 mins)

Jesus and Nicodemus - How can anyone be born again?

PAUSE (1 min)

Reflection (2 mins)

(Pause after every point)

- Lord, in this moment, we desire to be born again through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- In the depths of our souls pour down upon us now your life giving water.
- We believe that through the power of your spirit men and women can be born again from above.
- Let those waters flow deep in our hearts. In this moment, reveal to us anew the kingdom of God.

Silent prayer (10 mins)

Please stand as we now renew our baptismal promises (2 mins)

Litany of praise and intercession (4 mins)

Loving Father, we thank you for inviting us into a deep and lasting relationship with you,

Father, we praise and thank you for your love.

Thank you for your fidelity and for the graces you continue to fill us with,

Father, we praise and thank you for your love.

Thank you for our parents, godparents and sponsors whose faith was a living witness to your love for us,

Father, we praise and thank you for your love.

Thank you for this gift, the sacrament of baptism,

Father, we praise and thank you for your love.

Lord, we ask you for every blessing on our family and friends,

Lord hear our prayer.

Lord, we bring before you all the needs of our parish and Church,

Lord hear our prayer.

Lord, we ask you for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life,

Lord, hear our prayer.