



ST GEORGE & ST ANTHONY

COPTIC ORTHODOX CHURCH

All you need to prepare for your child's

Sacrament of Baptism

I INDEED BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER; BUT ONE MIGHTIER THAN I
IS COMING, WHOSE SANDAL STRAP I AM NOT WORTHY TO LOOSE.
HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND FIRE.

LUKE 3:16



GOD'S CALLING IN BAPTISM

We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

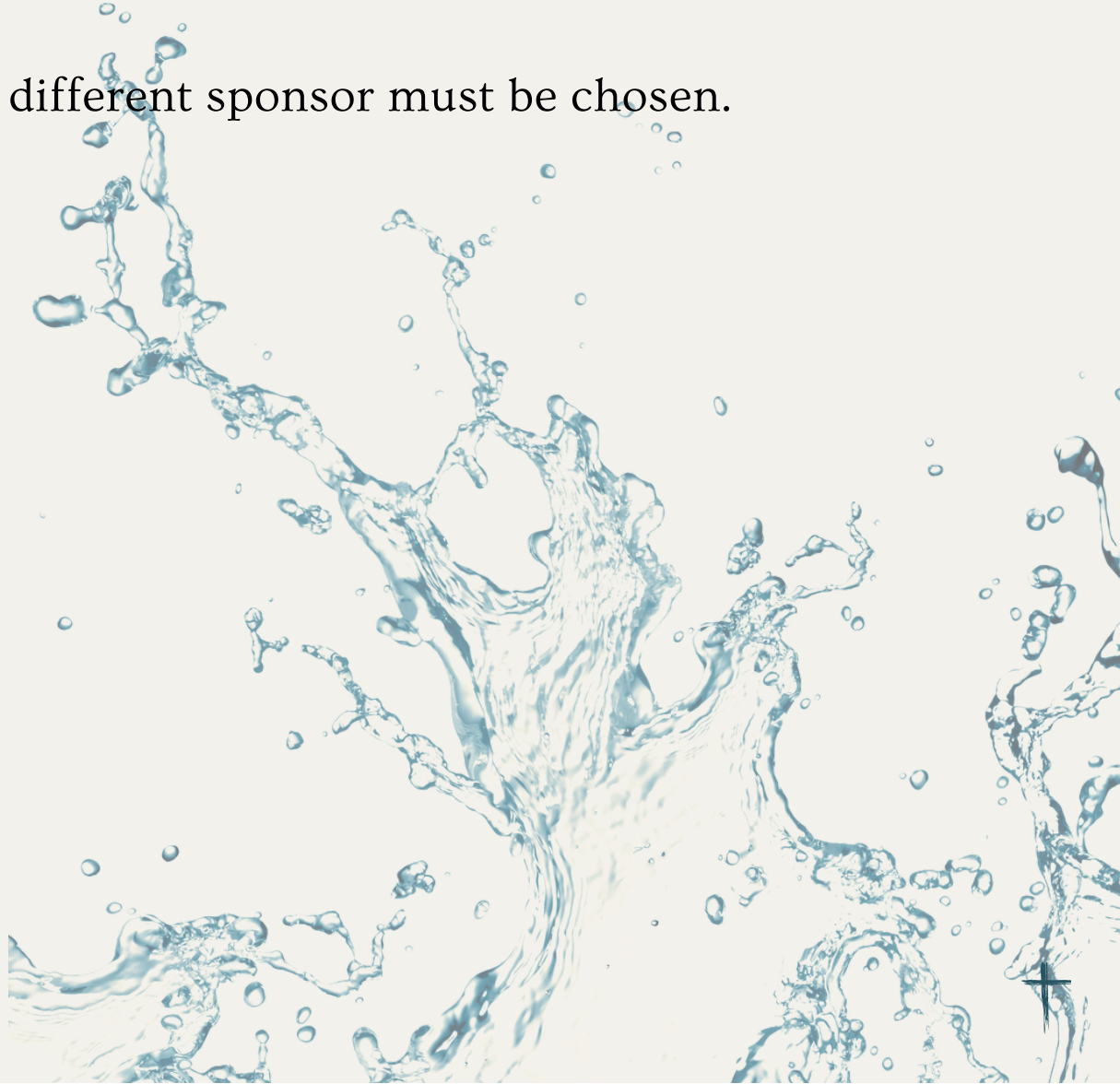
Romans 6:4



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

→ Your baby can be baptized as of day one.

→ The mother can stand as a sponsor after 40 days if the child is a male, and 80 days if the child is a female. Otherwise a different sponsor must be chosen.



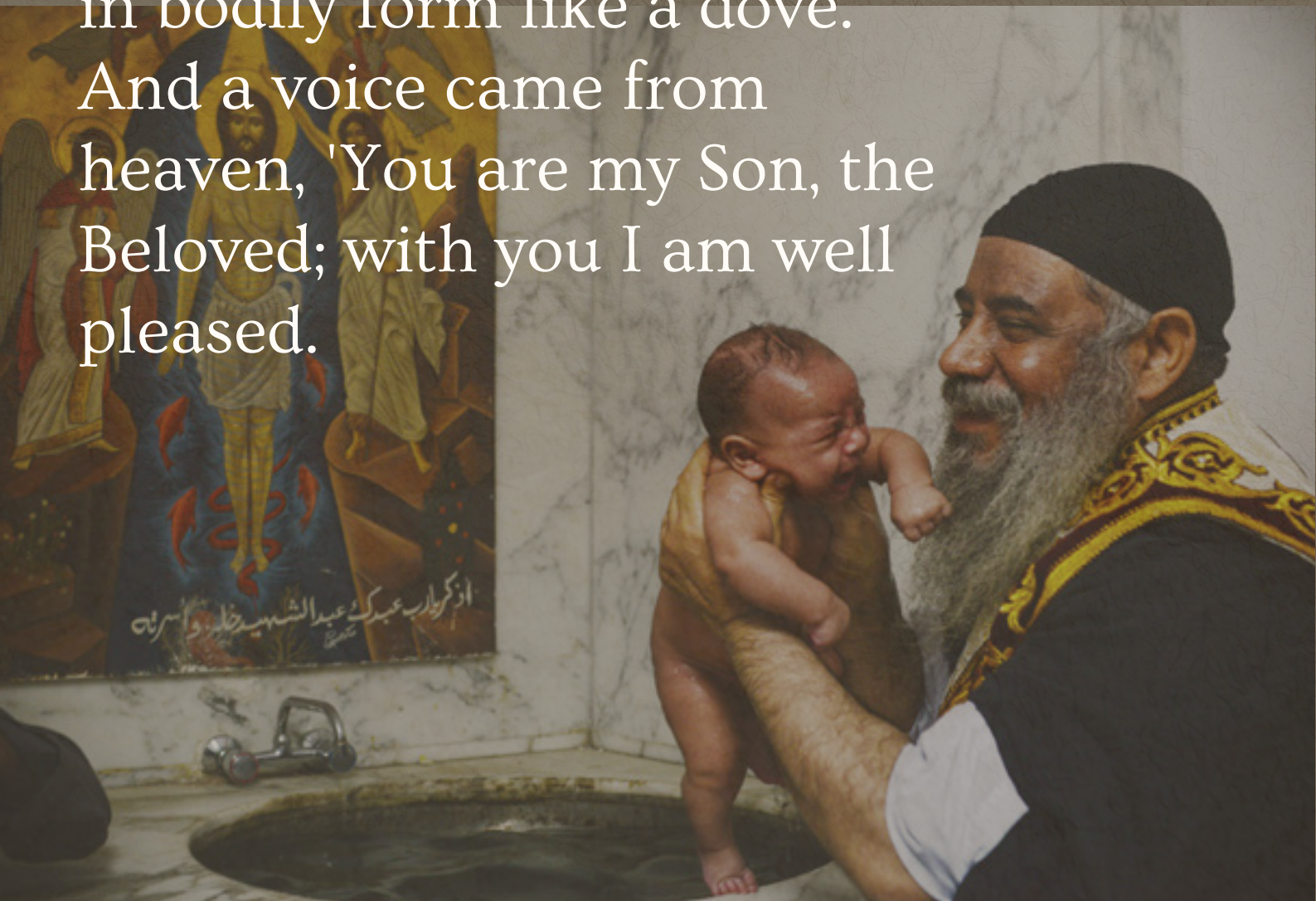
Baptism & Chrismation

HOW TO PREPARE:

- Firstly, please pick a suitable date and book it with one of the fathers.
- Please arrive on time as the baptism and chrismation will take anywhere from 45 minutes to an hour.
- Please ensure your baby is well fed prior to coming to the baptism.
- Please bring your white vestments of choice. The child will only wear them after the chrismation.
- Your child can come to the beginning of prayers in a diaper shirt or bodysuit (if you so choose).
- No need to bring towels as the church will provide them for the Sacraments.



Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the 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 Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.



THINGS TO CONSIDER

1 IF YOU REQUIRE LIVESTREAMING

This must be requested at least 2 weeks in advance.

2 A BAPTISMAL NAME MUST BE CHOSEN

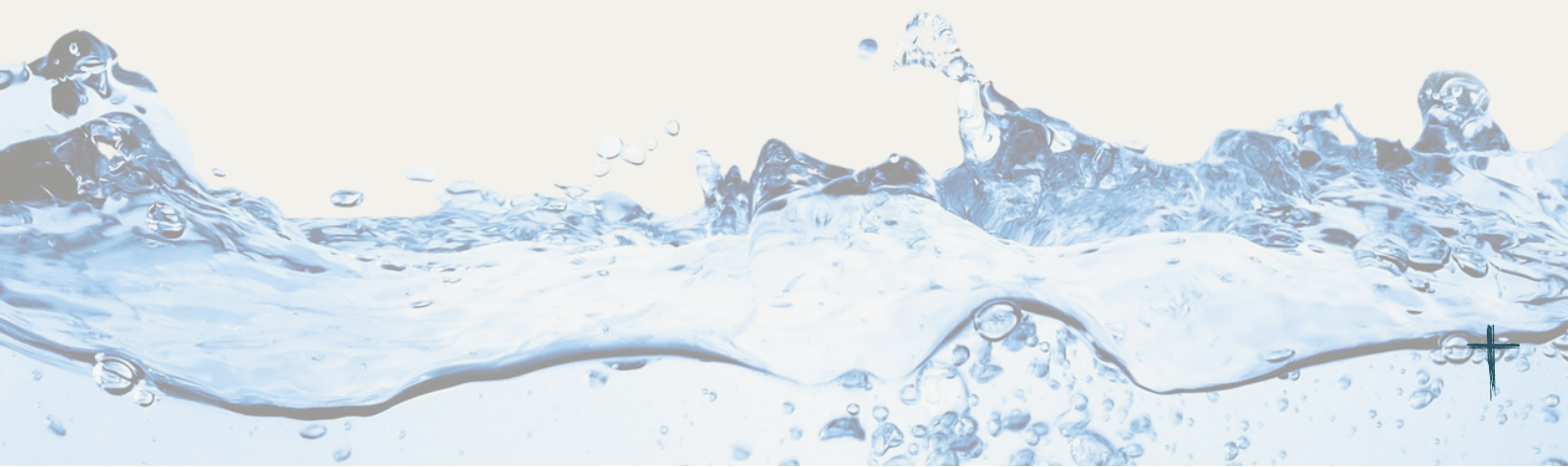
The name should be a Christian name or the name of a saint that will accompany the child throughout their Christian walk.

3 RECIEVING THE EUCHARIST

The child should attend liturgy and receive the Eucharist immediately following their Chrismation.

4 PRAYER TO BE READ

At the end of the the Baptism and Chrismation the prayer on the next few pages will be read to the parents and Godparents.



66

Thunder, O God the Father,
the Pantocrator, upon these
waters, that through them
and Your Holy Spirit, You
may renew the birth of Your
servants, who have
presented themselves to
You, in Your divine power.

99

LITURGICAL PRAYER OF CHRISMATION



BAPTISM COMMANDMENT PRAYER FOR CHILDREN

Blessed brethren, understand the amount of dignity which your children have obtained, who have been counted among the elect, and the grace which was bestowed upon them. They have now been counted among the Christians, by the pure Baptism that was commanded by the Savior of the worlds, as the chosen and pure Apostles have testified, that after the holy Resurrection, He appeared to them and sent them to all nations to preach, saying “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nation, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (Matthew 28: 19-20).

Today, my beloved, your children have become heirs of the life with Christ the Master. Today, your children have received the pledge of life and have become rooted in the true and orthodox faith. The day on which they were born, they were slaves and not free. But today, they have become conquerors over the plots of the wicked.

Did you not hear the fearful and awesome words that were told you about the holy Baptism? Did you not answer on behalf on your children, saying: “We renounce you, Satan, and all your unclean works?” Did you not turn them toward the East and submit to the Lord, saying, “We believe in one God, God the Father the Pantocrator, and His only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, confessing His Holy Spirit, being baptized by the one Baptism in His holy Church?”--hearkening to His divine saying in the Holy Gospel on the tongues of His pure and saintly Apostles, “Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God” (John 3:5).

Now, my beloved, understand that you have received your children from the holy, pure, and spiritual Baptism, and that He will ask you about them, if you neglect them and their discipline and their restoration from unacceptable circumstances.

Be diligent in teaching them reciting the holy Scriptures which are the breath of God, and attending church services in the mornings and evenings, and fasting on Wednesdays and Fridays, the Holy Forty Days fast, and all the fasts; and in keeping the Church laws and apostolic commands. They now have become worthy to partake of the holy and divine Mysteries, which are the Body and Blood of the Son of God that was shed for the salvation of the creation.



St. George & St. Anthony Coptic Orthodox Church

Guard your children, and keep them from going to unsuitable places, so that the Lord may guard them from satanic temptations. Sow in them beautiful qualities. Sow in them righteousness and praise. Sow in them purity. Sow in them obedience, love and holiness. Sow in them compassion, charity and justice. Sow in them godliness, patience and goodness. Sow in them honesty and every good work that pleases God so that your souls and your children's souls may live.

And you blessed godparents, and meek and faithful brethren, may God protect you with His mighty right hand. May He become a guardian to you as He was to our father Abraham. Know that you have become sponsors and guarantors for this Baptism, and, from today, you are their spiritual parents, observers of their secrets, responsible for their wrongdoings, and eyewitnesses to their daily circumstances. Today you are accountable for their actions and deeds, and have guaranteed them from Christ a true guarantee, that you may answer on their behalf on Judgement Day.

You have received this gift according to the Law, and the priests of God and the Church have witnesses on you to be diligent in teaching them with integrity and reverence, that you may boast of them the utmost boasting. Teach them the acceptable ways of God so that their conduct may be acceptable, satisfactory and enlightened. Build them upon the strong foundation of goodness. Avert them from interacting with the ungodly, the lecherous, the evil-doers and the wicked, and from participating in their entertainment, amusement, and mockery.

Nurture them with spiritual teachings in the best way. Teach them the fear of God and His revered commands. Raise them according to a plan and sound order. Do not neglect their catechism like the wicked and lazy servant who neglected his talent, but be diligent that you may hear His voice, saying "Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things" (Matthew 25)

May God make you, O brethren who are listening, profitable in your talents, through the grace of our Master and Savior, Jesus Christ, whom we ask to make us steadfast in the upright faith to the last breath, to forgive us our sins and remit our iniquities, to cover our oversights, to help us to do what is pleasing to Him, and to crush Satan under our feet speedily. May He make the gates of His Church open for us, and make us hear the voice full of joy, saying: "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matthew 25:34)

Through the intercession of our Lady, the lady of us all, Virgin Mary, and all those who have pleased the lord with their good deeds since Adam and to end of ages.
Amen.





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