



BAPTISM BEGINNINGS

MY  
*Godparent*  
REMEMBERS



A Keepsake Journal  
for Godparents

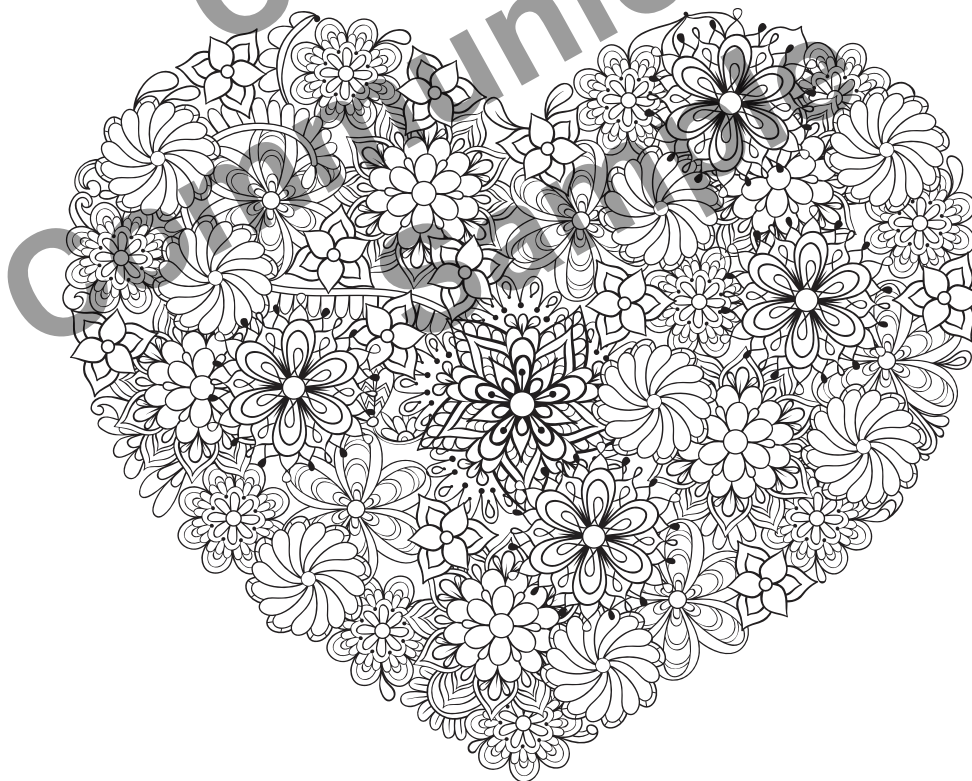
*My Godchild's Name*

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*Date of Baptism*

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Creative  
Communications



*Location*

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*Time of Service*

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*Presiding Pastor*

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*Godparents' Names*

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# *Congratulations!*

It is a special honor and privilege to be named a godparent for a very special child. The parents of your godchild certainly have seen “your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope” (1 Thessalonians 1:3). Now by God’s grace, it is time to take that faith, love and hope a step farther. Here are some things you can do as a godparent in the coming years.

- Pray for your godchild.
- Remind your godchild of his or her baptism date.
- Be there to listen and to offer advice to your godchild as he or she gets older.
- Teach your godchild about God.
- Attend church with your godchild.
- Read the 10 Commandments, the Apostles’ Creed, and the Lord’s Prayer with your godchild.
- Encourage your godchild to learn more about the Bible in Sunday School, confirmation class and Bible studies.
- Send greetings to your godchild at Christmas, Easter and other special times, especially on each anniversary of his or her baptism.
- Describe to your godchild how Christ has helped you in your life of faith.
- Bring your godchild to Holy Communion when the time comes.

# *In The Beginning*

## My First Memories of You

Share your memories of the first time you saw or learned of the special person who is now your godchild.

My earliest memory of you is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

My hope and prayer that day was \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

When I was asked to be your godparent \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# *Water and Word*

## **What is Baptism?**

**B**aptism is a sacrament in which water and the Word of God are brought together to bring forgiveness, salvation and new life in Christ to a person born into this sinful world. In the sacrament of Holy Baptism, a person is named a child of God and receives, by grace, the gift of faith, through the Holy Spirit.

## **What is Spoken in Baptism?**

**T**he pastor often reminds the baptized person, the baptized person's family and the congregation of the need to be saved from sin and of the salvation available only through Christ. At this time, many pastors repeat Christ's command to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

Using water, the pastor says the following, "I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

The entire assembly often speaks the Lord's Prayer and the Apostles' Creed as a testimony of the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

The baptism usually ends with a word of welcome to the baptized person from the people of God gathered there.

## What Actions Take Place in Baptism?

**P**astors make the sign of the cross upon the forehead, marking that person as someone saved by the cross of Christ,

A baptismal candle is customarily lit to celebrate this new addition to the family of God. This candle serves as a reminder of Christ's call to all the children of God: "Let your light so shine before others" (Matthew 5:16).

A small robe is sometimes placed on the baptized person to symbolize the robe of righteousness God placed on this person. In this act, those gathered are reminded that in baptism, we all "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 13:14).



# *Special Prayers*

## **At Times of Growth and Change**

**C**hrist Jesus, bless my godchild who is going forth to start a new venture. Remind this child always to be in this world, but not of this world; to bear witness to your love and to shine your light in every situation. Amen.

## **For Growth in Faith**

**O** Holy Spirit, work within the life of my godchild. Inspire this child to trust in God alone. Build up this child's confidence in your promises of forgiveness and salvation. And sustain an active spirit that seeks to serve the Lord in word and deed. Amen.

## **For Guidance**

**L**eading Lord, place people in my godchild's life who guide your children in your truth. And lead my godchild to follow the words and actions of teachers, parents, pastors and friends who are faithful to you. Amen.