**Third Part: Baptismal Liturgy**

* **Where there is a baptism, these pages are used in place of pages 23-33 in the Easter Vigil folder.**
* *After the Homily the Baptismal Liturgy begins. The Priest goes with the ministers to the baptismal font, if this can be seen by the faithful. Otherwise a vessel with water is placed in the sanctuary.*
* *Catechumens, if there are any, are called forward and presented by their godparents in front of the assembled Church or, if they are small children, are carried by their parents and godparents.*
* *Then, if there is to be a procession to the baptistery or to the font, it forms immediately. A minister with the paschal candle leads off, and those to be baptized follow him with their godparents, then the ministers, the Deacon, and the Priest. During the procession, the Litany is sung. When the Litany is completed, the Priest gives the address (see below).*
* *If, however, the Baptismal Liturgy takes place in the sanctuary, the Priest immediately make an introductory statement in these or similar words:*

**Dearly beloved,**

**with one heart and one soul,**

**let us by our prayers come to the aid of these our brothers and sisters in their blessed hope,**

**so that, as they approach the font of rebirth,**

**the almighty Father may bestow on them all his merciful help.**

**The Litany of Saints**

***Priest:* Lord, have mercy *People:* Lord, have mercy**

***Priest:* Christ, have mercy *People:* Christ, have mercy**

***Priest:* Lord, have mercy *People:* Lord, have mercy**

*The people’s response is “Pray for us”*

**Holy Mary, Mother of God**

**Saint Michael**

**Holy angels of God**

**Saint John the Baptist**

**Saint Joseph**

**Saint Peter**

**Saint Paul**

**Saint Andrew**

**Saint John**

**Saint Mary Magdalene**

**Saint Stephen**

**Saint Ignatius of Antioch**

**Saint Laurence**

**Saint Perpetua and Saint Felicity**

**Saint Agnes**

**Saint Gregory**

**Saint Augustine**

**Saint Athanasius**

**Saint Basil**

**Saint Martin**

**Saint Benedict**

**Saint Francis and Saint Dominic**

**Saint Francis Xavier**

**Saint John Vianney**

**Saint Catherine of Siena**

**Saint Teresa of Jesus**

**And all holy men and women, Saints of God.**

***Priest:* Lord, be merciful *People:* Lord, deliver us, we pray**

**From all evil… “**

**From every sin… “**

**From everlasting death… “**

**By Your Incarnation… “**

**By Your Death and Resurrection… “**

**By the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit… “**

***Priest:* Be merciful to us sinners**

***People:* Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer**

***Priest:***

**Bring these chosen ones to new birth through the grace of Baptism**

***People:* Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer**

***Priest:* Jesus, Son of the Living God**

***People:* Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer**

***Priest:* Christ, hear us *People:* Christ, hear us**

***Priest:* Christ, graciously hear us *People:* Christ, graciously hear us**

**Priest:**

**Almighty ever-living God,**

**be present by the mysteries of your great love**

**and send forth the spirit of adoption to create the new peoples**

**brought to birth for you in the font of Baptism,**

**so that what is to be carried out by our humble service**

**may be brought to fulfillment by your mighty power.**

**Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Blessing of Baptismal Water**

* *The Priest then blesses the baptismal water, saying the following prayer with hands extended:*

**O God, who by invisible power**

**accomplish a wondrous effect**

**through sacramental signs**

**and who in many ways have prepared water, your creation,**

**to show forth the grace of Baptism;**

**O God, whose Spirit**

**in the first moments of the world’s creation**

**hovered over the waters,**

**so that the very substance of water**

**would even then take to itself the power to sanctify;**

**O God, who by the outpouring of the flood**

**foreshadowed regeneration,**

**so that from the mystery of one and the same element of water**

**would come an end to vice and a beginning of virtue;**

**O God, who caused the children of Abraham**

**to pass dry-shod through the Red Sea,**

**so that the chosen people,**

**set free from slavery to Pharaoh,**

**would prefigure the people of the baptized;**

**O God, whose Son,**

**baptized by John in the waters of the Jordan,**

**was anointed with the Holy Spirit,**

**and, as he hung upon the Cross,**

**gave forth water from his side along with blood,**

**and after his Resurrection, commanded his disciples:**

**“Go forth, teach all nations, baptizing them**

**in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”**

**look now, we pray, upon the face of your Church**

**and graciously unseal for her the fountain of Baptism.**

**May this water receive by the Holy Spirit**

**the grace of your Only Begotten Son,**

**so that human nature, created in your image**

**and washed clean through the Sacrament of Baptism**

**from all the squalor of the life of old,**

**may be found worthy to rise to the life of newborn children**

**through water and the Holy Spirit.**

* *And lowering the paschal candle into the water three times,*

*the Priest continues:*

**May the power of the Holy Spirit,**

**O Lord, we pray,**

**come down through your Son**

**into the fullness of this font,**

* a*nd, holding the candle in the water, he continues:*

**so that all who have been buried with Christ**

**by Baptism into death**

**may rise again to life with him.**

**Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, for ever and ever.**

**R. Amen.**

*Then the candle is lifted out of the water, as the people acclaim:*

***Springs of water, bless the Lord; praise and exalt him above all forever***

* *Then the priest, standing, puts the prescribed questions to the adults and the parents or godparents of the children, as*

*is set out in the respective Rites of the Roman Ritual, in order for them to make the required renunciation.*

* *If the anointing of the adults with the Oil of Catechumens has not taken place beforehand, as part of the immediately preparatory rites, it occurs at this moment.*
* *Then the Priest questions the adults individually about the faith and, if there are children to be baptized, he requests the triple profession of faith from all the parents and godparents*

*together, as is indicated in the respective Rites.*

* *Where many are to be baptized on this night, it is possible to arrange the rite so that, immediately after the response of those to be baptized and of the godparents and the parents,*

*the Celebrant asks for and receives the renewal of baptismal promises of all present.*

* *When the interrogation is concluded, the Priest baptizes the adult elect and the children.*
* *After the Baptism, the Priest anoints the infants with chrism. A white garment is given to each, whether adults or children. Then the Priest or Deacon receives the paschal candle from*

*the hand of the minister, and the candles of the newly baptized are lighted. For infants the rite of Ephphetha is omitted.*

* *Afterwards, unless the baptismal washing and the other explanatory rites have occurred in the sanctuary, a procession returns to the sanctuary, formed as before, with the newly*

*baptized or the godparents or parents carrying lighted candles.*

* *During this procession, the baptismal canticle Vidi aquam (I saw water) or another appropriate chant is sung.*
* *If adults have been baptized, the Bishop or, in his absence, the Priest who has conferred Baptism, should at once administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to them in the sanctuary, as is indicated in the Roman Pontifical or Roman Ritual.*
* *When the Rite of Baptism (and Confirmation) has been completed or, if this has not taken place, after the blessing of water, the priest returns to the chair and all stand, holding lighted candles in their hands, and renew the promise of baptismal faith, unless this has already been done together with those to be baptized.*

***The text continues in the Easter Vigil folder***