

THE BLESSING OF HOLY WATER

Words to be said are in this style: **All:** say these words.

Instructions are in italics.

The priest is vested with purple stole. Natural salt is available in a shallow dish and fresh water in a small clear glass jug. Fresh clear collected rainwater may be preferred, but must be passed through a filter paper prior to this blessing. There must be no particles of impurity present. A suitable container shall be used to store the holy water, and only sufficient for two weeks shall be made. Holy Water may only be blessed by priests.

The Exorcism & Blessing of the salt

The priest holds the salt and prepares it as follows:

Priest: I exorcise this salt, by the living + God, by the holy + God, by the omnipotent + God, that you may be purified from all evil influence, in the name of the Lord of angels and of humankind, who fills the earth with majesty and glory.

All: Amen.

Priest: We pray, O God, in your boundless lovingkindness to stretch out the right hand of your power over this element of salt, which we + bless and + hallow in your holy name. Grant that this salt may make for health of mind and body to all who partake of it and that every power of adversity and every illusion or artifice of disharmony may be driven away from the place where it is used; through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The priest holds the water and prepares it as follows:

Priest: I exorcise this water, by the living + God, by the holy + God, by the omnipotent + God, that you may be purified from all evil influence, in the name of the Lord of angels and of humankind, who fills the earth with majesty and glory.

All: Amen.

Priest: O God, who for the helping and safeguarding of humankind always hallows the water set apart for your holy service, send forth your light and power upon this element of water, which we + bless and + hallow in your holy name. Grant that whoever uses this water in faithfulness of spirit may be strengthened in all goodness and that everything sprinkled with it may be made holy and pure and guarded from all assaults of disharmony; through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

The priest casts some salt into the water three times, in the form of a cross, saying:

Priest: Let salt and water mingle together in the name of the + Father and of the + Son and of the Holy + Spirit.

All: Amen.

If the priest is wearing a purple/white or purple/golden reversible stole, the white or gold stole is now used. With hands held out over the Holy Water the priest says:

Priest: O God, the giver of invincible strength and king of irresistible power, whose splendour shines throughout the whole of creation, we pray you will look upon this mixture of salt and water, to pour down upon it the radiance of your + blessing and to + hallow it with the dew of your lovingkindness, that wherever it shall be sprinkled and Your Holy Name be invoked in prayer, every noble aspiration may be strengthened, every good resolve made firm and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit affirmed to us who place our trust in You; who with the Son lives and reigns in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, God throughout all ages of ages.

All: Amen

As the water is likely to be used for baptismal purposes, the following prayer is always said:

Priest: O Lord Christ, who in the mystery of your boundless love took upon yourself the limitations of human form and in your gracious compassion gathered little children into your arms; stretch forth, we pray, the right hand of your power over this holy water and fill it with your heavenly + grace and + blessing, that those to be baptised with it may receive the fullness of your love and ever remain in the number of your faithful children.

All: Amen