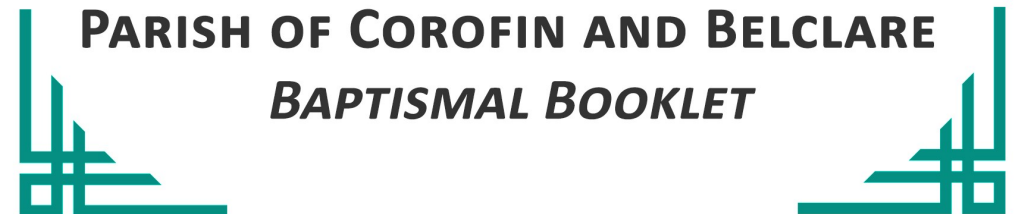




*This is my child, the beloved...*



**PARISH OF COROFIN AND BELCLARE**  
**BAPTISMAL BOOKLET**





## **Concluding Prayers**

**Priest:** Your child has been christened and is now affirmed as a child of God. It is the beginning of the journey of life. Please God, you will have the pleasure of being with your child for First Holy Communion and again for Confirmation. May God bless your child right throughout his/her life. Now, on your child's behalf, let us pray the Lord's Prayer:

**All; Our Father.....**

### **A Blessing for the Mother**

May God the source of life and love, who fills the hearts of mothers with love and affections for their children, bless the mothers of these newly baptised children. As they thank God for the gift of a beautiful child, may they find joy in the love, growth and holiness of their children.

### **A Blessing for the Father.**

O God we pray that you will help these fathers to guide and support their children as they journey through life. Help them to be good parents and to teach their children by word and example.

### **A Blessing for the grandparents and godparents.**

These children belong to a family and a community that has a rich and noble heritage. We pray for the Parents, Godparents, Grandparents, family and friends, that they may all support and guide these children to a happy, fulfilling and fruitful life.

### **Final Blessing**

And may almighty God bless you all, the Father + the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Go in peace.

**All: Thanks be to God**

## **Congratulations**

Congratulations on the birth of your child whom we are delighted to welcome into our Christian community here in Corofin/Belclare. In Baptism, your child will be acknowledged and affirmed as a child of God. Baptism is the first step in your child's faith journey. By requesting the Sacrament of baptism for your child, you are giving a commitment that you will bring your child up in the practice of the faith. We in turn are committed to supporting your family on this journey and we look forward to celebrating the Sacraments of First Penance, First Holy Communion and Confirmation with your child in due course. Parents requesting Baptism for their child should therefore be practicing Catholics who bring their children to mass regularly.

### **Choosing Godparents**

Your child's godparents are required to be members of the Catholic Church who have celebrated all three sacraments of initiation; Baptism, Communion and Confirmation. Godparents play an important role in supporting the parents to hand on their faith to their child, so they themselves should be practicing Catholics. However, at the request of the parents, a baptised and believing Christian, not belonging to the Catholic Church, may also act as a Christian witness along with a Catholic godparent.

### **Symbols used in the ceremony:**

**Water** – the symbol of life,

**Holy Oils**, symbols of God's blessing and protection,

The **Christening gown/shawl**, a symbol of new life and purity

A **lighted candle**, representing the handing on of the faith to the next generation.

Your child's baptism will be recorded in the **Baptism Register** which will also record your child's confirmation and marriage or ordination.

## Part One: Ceremony of Welcome

**Priest to Parents:** What name have you chosen for your child?

**Parents: N.N.** *Each set of parents says the name of their child.*

**Priest:** What do you ask of God's church for your child?

**Parents:** Baptism.

**Priest to Parents:** You have asked to have your child baptised. In doing so, you are accepting the responsibility of bringing your child up in the practice of the faith. Will you tell your child about God and teach your child to pray, to value life, to be just, truthful and kind, to respect and care for others and will you bring your child to Mass?

**Parents:** We will.

**Priest to Godparents:** Will you support this child and help these parents to hand on their faith to their child?

**Godparents:** We will.

**Priest:** On behalf of our Christian community, I welcome your child and I invite the parents and god parents to make the sign of the cross on the child's forehead as a gesture of blessing and welcome.

## Part Two: Liturgy of the Word.

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 29:11-14  
*When you seek me, you shall find me.*

I know the plans I have in mind for you - It is God who speaks - plans for peace not disaster, reserving a future full of hope for you. When you call to me, and come to plead with me, I will listen to you. When you seek me, you shall find me. When you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me. The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Response:** *I thank you Lord for the wonder of my being.*

## Anointing with Chrism



**Priest;** God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into his people. I now anoint you with Chrism of Salvation. As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet and King, so may you live as a member of his Body, sharing everlasting life. Amen

## The Christening Gown

You have become a new creation, clothed in Christ. See in this Christening Gown the outward sign of your inner dignity. With your family and friends to help you along the way of Life, we pray that you will bring the beauty and dignity that you have today into everlasting life. Amen



## The Christening Candle

*The priest gives a lighted candle to the parents to signify that Christ our Light will show us the way through life.*



**Priest:** Receive the light of Christ.

Parents and Godparents, this light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. Your child has been enlightened by Christ. May your child always walk as a child of that Light. May the flame of faith and compassion be alive in your child's heart. And when the Lord comes, may your child go out to meet Him with all the Saints in Heaven. **Amen**

## Blessing of the Senses

*The parents make the sign of the cross over the child's ears and mouth.*

May the Lord bless your Child with understanding, wisdom, gentleness, strength and generosity. May Jesus who made the deaf hear and the dumb speak soon touch your ears to receive His Word and your mouth to proclaim His Gospel, to the praise and glory of the Father. **Amen.**

## Renewal of Baptismal Promises.

**Priest:** Parents, God-parents and friends you have come here to present your child for baptism. By water and the Holy Spirit your child is to receive the gift of new life from God who is Love. You must make it your constant care and concern to bring your child up in the practice of the faith. As you publicly declare your intention to hand on your faith to your child, I now ask you;

**Priest:** Do you reject Evil in all its forms?

**Parents and Godparents: I do**

**Priest:** Do you believe in God the father, the creator of Heaven and earth?

**Parents and Godparents: I do**

**Priest:** Do you believe in Jesus Christ and resolve to try to live his Gospel of Truth, Justice and Love?

**Parents and Godparents: I do**

**Priest:** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.

**Parents and Godparents: I do.**

**Priest:** This is our faith that we are all children of the universe, created equally in the sight of God and that this child is a child of God. Help us to live our faith and to love one another as God loves us. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

## Baptism

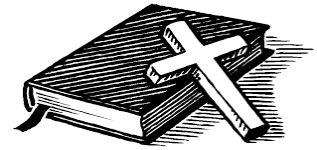
*The parents and Godparents now bring the baby to the font.*

**Priest:** Is it your wish that your child be baptised in the Christian Faith?

**Parents: It is**

**Priest:** I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Lord you search me and you know me.  
You know my resting and my rising.  
You discern my purpose from afar. **Response:**



For it was you who created me,  
knit me together in my mother's womb.  
I thank you for the wonder of my being. **Response:**

Already you knew my soul,  
My body held no secret from you.  
When I was being fashioned in secret  
And molded in the depths of the earth. **Response:**

## Second Reading Ephesians 4:1-6

*There is one Lord, one faith and one baptism.*

I implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all. The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia,**  
I am the light of the world, says the Lord.  
Anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia.



## Gospel Matthew 19:13-15

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to bless them, the disciples turned them away. Jesus was amazed and said to them, "Let the little children come to me, do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." Then he laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing. The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Prayer of the Faithful

**Priest:** On this special day, let us ask God our Father to bless these children, their parents, godparents, grandparents and all who are gathered here today.

1. We pray for these children; that God's gifts may bring joy to them, to their families and to the world. **Lord hear us.**
2. We pray for the parents. May their love and example help their child to know that God is love. **Lord hear us.**
3. We pray for the Godparents, Grandparents, family and friends. May they love, care for and guide these children as they journey through life. **Lord hear us.**
4. As we welcome these children into loving families, we pray for children who are deprived, neglected or abused. May all God's children be valued and loved. **Lord hear us.**
5. We remember our dead, especially the deceased members of our families and our community. May God grant them eternal rest. **Lord hear us.**
6. For all God's people. May we always be thankful for the blessings we have received from God. **Lord hear us.**

## Litany of the Saints

We now ask the Saints in Heaven to pray for us and for these children;

Holy Mary, Mother of God : **Pray for us**

St. John the Baptist: **Pray for us**

St. Joseph: **Pray for us**

Sts. Peter and Paul: **Pray for us**

St. Michael **Pray for us**

St. Colman **Pray for us**

St. Patrick: **Pray for us**

St. Brigid: **Pray for us**

St. Therese **Pray for us**

St. Padre Pio **Pray for us**

All saints of heaven: **Pray for us**



## The child is anointed with the Oil of Catechumens

**Priest:** O God our Father, you sent us your Son Jesus Christ to free us from evil, and to give us the freedom that only those who belong to your family enjoy. We pray that these children may be strengthened with the grace of Christ and that God may watch over every step of their journey.

We anoint you with the Oil of Salvations in the name of Christ our Saviour. May He strengthen you with his power who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen**

## Ceremony of Baptism

### Blessing of the Water

**Response: Blessed be God.**

Father, God of mercy, through these waters of baptism you have filled us with new life as your children and formed one people united in your son, Jesus Christ.

**Response: Blessed be God.**

You have set us free and filled our hearts with your love so that we may life in your peace.

**Response: Blessed be God.**

You call those who have been baptised to announce the good news to people everywhere.

**Response: Blessed be God.**

You have called your children to this cleansing water and new birth that by sharing the faith of your church they may have eternal life.

**Response: Blessed be God.**

May your blessing come upon this water and upon all who will be baptised in it, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Response: Blessed be God.**

