

Church of Our Father, Hulls Cove, Maine

DECLARATION OF INTENTION BY PARENTS AND GODPARENTS

We believe, as it is set forth in the Service of Holy Baptism in *The Book of Common Prayer*, that Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body the Church, and that the bond which God establishes in Baptism is indissoluble.

We understand Holy Baptism to be the Sacrament by which God adopts us as his children and makes us inheritors of the kingdom of God. The outward and visible sign of Baptism is water, in which the person is baptized in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. The inward and spiritual Grace in Baptism is union with Christ in his death and resurrection, birth into God's family the Church, forgiveness of sins, and new life in the Holy Spirit. It is required that we renounce Satan, repent of our sins, and accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

Infant children of believing parents are baptized so that they can share citizenship in the people of the New Covenant, membership in Christ, and redemption by God. Promises are made for them by their parents and godparents: that the infants will be brought up within the Church, to know Christ and to be able to follow him.

Therefore it is our understanding that by presenting our child for Baptism, we are assuming before God and his Church the responsibility to bring our child up in the Christian Faith and Life. To this end, we declare that it is our intention to worship together faithfully and regularly in the Church, to share regularly in Christian fellowship, and to offer prayers privately and together in our home with our child. We realize that the full understanding and experience of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord is a life-long journey, and it is our intention to lead our child in that journey. We further intend to do all in our power to teach our child, by word and example, to serve Christ and to give of her/his time, talent, and material resources for the strengthening of Christ's Church here on earth.

Committed to these understandings and intentions, we solemnly declare our willingness, before God and this congregation, freely to accept these vows of responsibility in a public Service of Holy Baptism.

Full name of the Person to be Baptized: _____

Father _____ Mother _____ Date _____

Godparent _____ Address _____

Godparent _____ Address _____

Godparent _____ Address _____

If you have questions or concerns about this declaration, please consult with the Priest before signing!