

Prayers and Response

Priest: [let us pray]

Priest: Bless the Lord all creation

All: Sing God's praise and exalt him forever

Priest: Bless the Lord all men and women

All: Sing God's praise and exalt him forever

Priest: Bless the Lord all young ones and children

All: Sing God' praise and exalt him forever

Priest: Bless the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

All: Sing God's praise and exalt him forever

Jeff and Lisa Say:

God our Creator, thank you for the waiting and the joy, thank you for new life and for parenthood, thank you for the gift of Jessica, entrusted to our care. May we be patient and understanding, ready to guide and forgive, that in our love Jessica may know your love. May she learn to love your world and the whole family of your children.

Amen.

Priest: Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home : bless the home of this child, and help all the family to live together in your love. Teach them to serve you and each other and make them always ready to show your love to those in need. For the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen.

Father in heaven, bless these God parents that they may cherish this child. Make them wise and understanding to help Jessica as she grows and surround her family with with the warmth of love;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen.

Priest: The Lord + bless you and keep you,
the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you,
the Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you
and give you peace,
and the + blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with
you always.

Amen.

A Service of Thanksgiving for the birth; and Blessing of

Jessica Elizabeth Yates



Born - 10th September 2005

23rd December 2005

When all have gathered the priest says

Priest:

Dear friends: the birth of a child is a joyous and serious occasion in the life of a family. It is also an occasion for rejoicing in the community. I ask you therefore to join Jeff and Lisa in giving thanks to God our heavenly Father, the Lord of all life, for the gift of their daughter.

Priest:

Hear these words from St. Mark:

They brought children for Jesus to touch. The disciples scolded them, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; and do not try to stop them; for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you, who ever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will never enter it. And he put his arms around them and laid his hands upon them and blessed them. Mk. 10:13-16

Priest: Let us pray

God our Father,
maker of all that is living,
we praise you for the wonder and joy of creation.
We thank you from our hearts for the life of this child,
for a safe delivery, and for the privilege of parenthood.
Accept our thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Giving of a Name:

Priest: Lisa & Jeff, What name have you given this child?

the family, holding the child responds.

We have named you Jessica Elizabeth

The family may wish to explain the choice of a name.

The Promises of the Parents:

Jeff Says:

As Jessica's father it is my promise to do all I can to provide for her; not only for her physical needs, but with time, and caring, and with support through difficult time. Because I have been taught that love is the most important thing in life, and because I am glad to have the chance to share my love with my daughter, as so many can not, I promise never to turn my back on Jessica, what ever she may do.

Priest: May God give you the strength to be true to your promises.

Lisa Says:

From the inseparable bond between mother and daughter, a bond I felt before she was born: I promise to love and support Jessica as long as I live. I promise to teach her to know, and choose the good. While my first role is to be Jessica's mother, my hope is that I will be the kind of person whom Jessica can trust and confide in, and that we will grow to be friends. I promise to be a 'Good Enough Mother'.

Priest: May God give you the strength to be true to your promises.

Jeff and Lisa say together.

We thank God for the gift of our daughter and ask for the strength to keep our promises. We ask you, our friends and family also to support us in the promises we have made.

The Promises of the Godparents:

(the God parents, holding Jessica say)

Michelle & David

As Jessica's God parents we promise to support Jeff and Lisa in the bringing up of Jessica.

They continue

Dear Jessica
on this day, we give these words to you: "love" and "hope". We will try to support you in all the choices you make through out your life. When life gets you down we would like to be a shoulder to cry on or the ear that listens with no prejudice or condemnation. We promise we will always love you.

Turning to Jessica they say: As you travel along the pathway of life, may all your dreams come true and your woes fade quickly.

Love Michelle & David