

Baptism: becoming the light of the world

A REFLECTION FOR PARENTS PREPARING THEIR CHILDREN FOR BAPTISM

■ Read Ephesians 5:8-14

As you participate in the baptismal rite, you will notice many symbols—including water, oil and the white baptismal garment. The rituals during the ceremony remind us that through Baptism, we are born into and anointed for new life in Christ (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1243). The baptismal candle is another symbol used during the baptismal ceremony. Lit from the Easter candle, the baptismal candle is a sign that, through Christ, the baptized become the light of the world. Baptism makes us disciples to the world and calls us to live out the Church's mission. And this mission involves caring for the poor and vulnerable in our communities, and around the world.



Photo by Kim Pozniak/CRS

QUESTIONS *for reflection*

- How do you bring Christ's light to the world—especially to those who suffer—as an individual, spouse or parent?
- How can you instill these values in your child as he/she grows in his/her faith?
- How can the people you have chosen as godparents support you on this journey?

By being baptized into the Church, your child will also join the Catholic Relief Services family. CRS brings Christ's light to the world by easing suffering and providing assistance to people in need.

To learn more and get involved, visit crs.org.



pray

God of Light,
Help our family bear your light to others—especially to those in our own family, community and around the world who experience the darkness of suffering. Strengthen us to be Christian witnesses to our children in moments of difficulty. Help us remember that your light is always here to guide us as we strive to follow you.
Amen