



**Catechetical
Companion**

to the

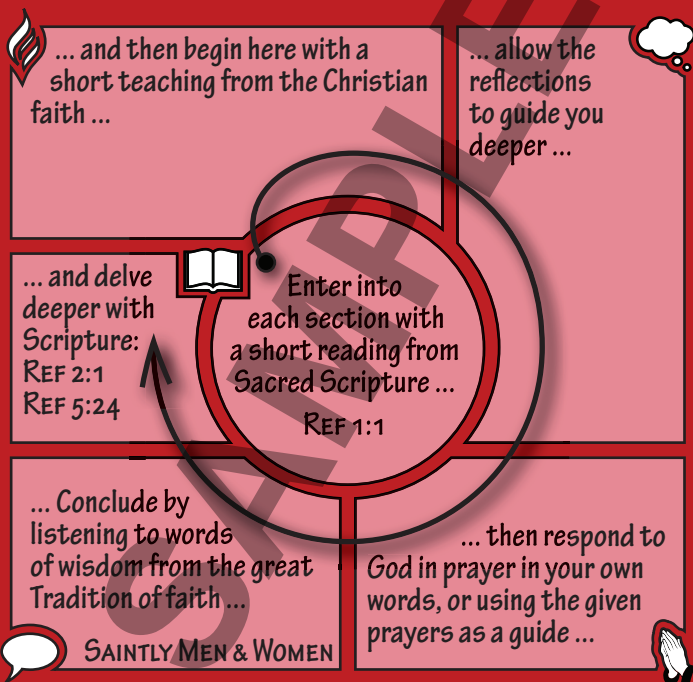
DOORS OF LIFE
Baptismal Candle

Chris Ledwich

Welcome to your Catechetical Companion!

How to use this book

You may want to start simply with the illustrations, and the large headings. When you are ready, read through the 'red pages' and follow the guided teachings (as shown by the arrow below):



CATECHETICAL COMPANION
TO THE 'DOORS OF LIFE' BAPTISMAL CANDLE
AN EXSULTET CANDLES PUBLICATION
REDBANK, QUEENSLAND

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NIHIL OBSTAT: PETER PELLICAN

IMPRIMATUR: ARCHBISHOP ✕ MARK COLERIDGE

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I, _____, *Your Name*



Were you named after a saint?
Learn about their heroic life!

was **BAPTISED**

on the _____ of _____

Day

Month

Year



Celebrate your baptism each
year by lighting your candle

by _____

Minister



Have any questions?
Ask your priest!

at _____

Place of Baptism

in the presence of my parents

Father

Mother



Read this book with your
parents and talk to them about it

and godparents

Godparent

Godparent



Share your faith with your
godparents & ask for their prayers

who promised to train me in the
practice of the faith, with the help
of the Christian community.

SAMPLE

... FLOWS GOD'S LOVE ...

From HIS wounded SIDE

Having accomplished our salvation by his sacrifice upon the cross, Jesus' body was pierced one final time. He poured himself out utterly, even beyond death, for our salvation.

His wounded side is for us a window to Jesus' Sacred Heart. In that heart of love we can see that not even death can stop the love that our God has for us in Christ Jesus.

ISA 53:5
ZEC 12:10
MT 5:8
LK 2:35
ROM 8:37-39

“One of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out.”

JN 19:34

“For this was Thy sacred Side opened, that we might have free access to Thy Heart.”

ST. BERNARD
OF CLAIRVAUX

Gaze into his wounded side and meditate on Jesus' Sacred Heart. Know that no sin in your life can prevent his merciful love for you.

flows BLOOD & Water

From Jesus' side flows the water of new life in which we are cleansed and the Blood of the new and eternal covenant which he commanded us to drink to receive eternal life.

Here Christ is all at once the temple, the sacrificial lamb, the font of life, the new Adam from whose side the Church is brought forth. The depths of this mystery are endless.

GEN 2:21
EZE 47:1
HEB 9:12
REV 22:1
1 COR 10:4

“This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ ...”

1 JN 5:6

“Beloved, do not pass over this mystery without thought; it has yet another hidden meaning ...”

ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Spend some time meditating on this wondrous mystery. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the gracious love of God to you more and more.

BECOMING a fountain of GRACE

The death of Christ is the font of all grace and the source of all the sacraments by which we are made one with God. Through the waters of baptism we come to eat at the table of his Body & Blood.

Out of the wounds of his suffering & death our Lord is offering his very self to you freely. Receive him into your heart and drink deep of the peace and joy he brings.

ZEC 13:1
LK 22:20
JN 4:14
JN 6:54
REV 21:6

“For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.”

Ps 36:9

“He [the soldier] breached the wall of the sacred temple, and I have found the treasure and made it my own.”

ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Wash me, O Lord, with the water that flows from your side and nourish me by the grace of your Blood - that I may be one with you always.

where WE all GATHER

By the waters of Baptism and the Blood of the Eucharist we have the same life of God living in each of us, making us one family of God as members of Christ's Body, the Church.

Sin divides us, but by the Holy Spirit through grace of the sacraments we are brought together as one – adopted into the family of God with one Father in Jesus Christ.

JN 4:14
ROM 8:15
GAL 3:28
EPH 4:1-6
REV 21:6

“For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body”

COR 12:13

“The Church also is one ... since from one spring flow many streams ... yet the unity is still preserved in the source.”

ST. CYPRIAN CARTHAGE

Now we can pray together in the Spirit as one family to God our Father as Jesus taught us:

“Our Father...” (Mt 6:9-13)

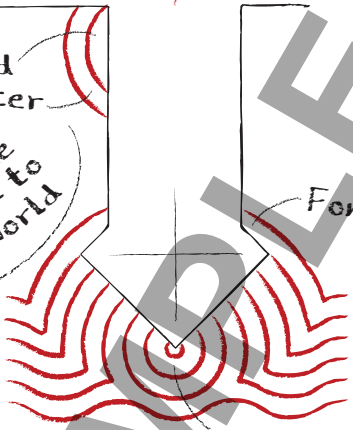
Sacred Heart
and final wound
of Jesus



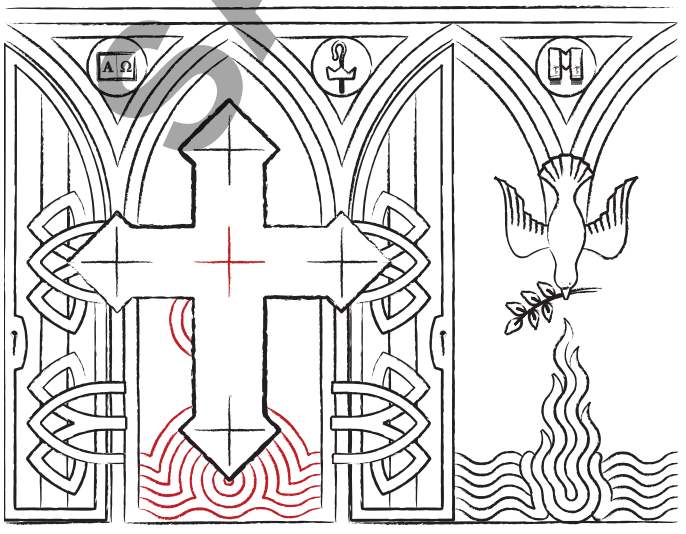
Blood
& Water

His grace
flows out to
all the world

Font of Life



The Church
gathered at the
foot of the cross



CONGRATULATIONS!

We at Exsultet Candles rejoice with you at your baptism and welcome you into the Church. Let the words and images contained in this book be your guide to the rich symbolism of the 'Doors of Life' Baptismal Candle and the wondrous mysteries of the Christian faith.

We hope that this book may serve not only as a companion to your Baptismal Candle, but to you also as you grow and mature in body and soul.

“

This illustrated guide explores the deeper meaning of the baptismal candle and could be used at each stage of a person's spiritual journey. The guide, like the candle, seeks to shed light upon the path of faith.

”

ARCHBISHOP MARK COLERIDGE
Archdiocese of Brisbane



truth • beauty • goodness

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We would love to hear from you!