**READINGS AND PRAYERS FOR BAPTISM CEREMONY**

**FIRST READING**

**A reading from the Prophet Isaiah**

But now, this is what the Lord says, he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel:
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have summoned you by name; you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you.
When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned;
For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;
I give Egypt for your ransom,
Since you are precious and honoured in my sight, and because I love you,
I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life.
**5**Do not be afraid, for I am with you;
Bring my sons from afar, and my daughters from the ends of the earth—
everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**I thank You for the wonder of my being.**

O Lord, You search me and You know me,
You know my resting and my rising,
You discern my purpose from afar.
You mark when I walk or lie down,
all my ways lie open to You.

**I thank You for the wonder of my being.**

For it was You who created my being,
knit me together in my mother’s womb.
I thank You for the wonder of my being,
for the wonders of all Your creation.

**I thank You for the wonder of my being.**

Already You knew my soul,
my body held no secret from You
when I was being fashioned in secret
and moulded in the depths of the earth.

**I thank You for the wonder of my being.**

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

1. **:** For the Church throughout the world: may it continue to nurture and guide the youngest members of our faith community with compassion and wisdom. Lord hear us.
2. For this child, [Name], who today receives the sacrament of baptism, that they may grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord, surrounded by faith and love.

Lord hear us.

1. **:** For the parents and godparents of [Name], that they may be true witnesses of the faith and provide loving guidance throughout this child’s spiritual journey.

Lord hear us.

1. For all families celebrating the baptism of a child, that this sacred event may draw them closer together and deeper into the heart of Christ’s Church.

Lord hear us.

1. **:** For all who are sick, especially children suffering in our world, that they may experience the healing power of Christ’s love and the comfort of our community’s prayers.

Lord hear us.