



"Here's one where Aunt Mary and Uncle Steve are holding us."

"Yes," Michael replied, "but they aren't our real aunt and uncle, are they Mom? We just call them that."

Mother smiled. "You're right, Michael. Aunt Mary and Uncle Steve are your Godparents."

Catherine chimed in then. "Oh, my new friend at church school calls her Godparents *kumovi*. But I think people from different countries all have different names for 'godparents'."

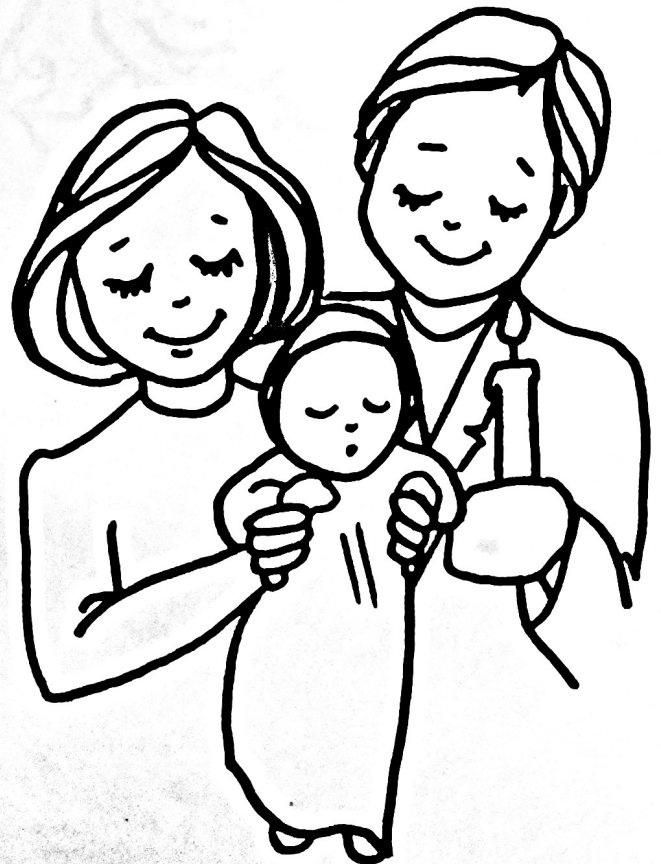
"You're right, honey. Now, do either of you know when these photographs were taken?"

"Of course!" the twins exclaimed. "They were taken when we were baptized!"

"See--here we are in our pretty white robes, and Aunt Mary and Uncle Steve are holding candles."

"Yeah," giggled Michael, "while trying to juggle us and not drip wax at the same time!"

"I'll bet I know why you said this was such an important day for us, Mom," put in Catherine. "When we were baptized, we became members of God's family. We became Orthodox Christians."



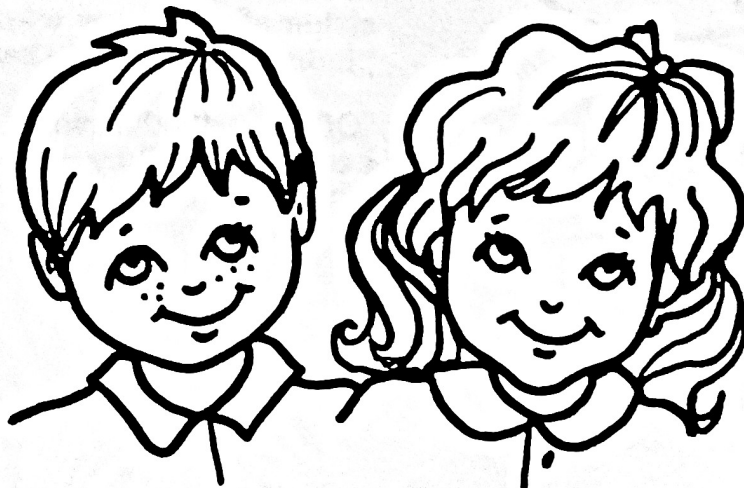
"And," Michael added, "that's why Aunt Mary and Uncle Steve are *family*, too now. . . because they're our Godparents--they answered Father John's questions about wanting to be Orthodox Christians for us."

"Well, of course, Silly!" Catherine poked her brother. "Babies can't answer for themselves!"

"Well, you two," smiled Mother, "you've really surprised me! I'm certainly glad to see that you know how important your Baptismal day was. On that day, you became members of God's family--the Holy Orthodox Church. God loves us so much that He gave us this special gift of Baptism!"

"I think," said Michael, "that we should take this album downstairs so we can look at it more often."

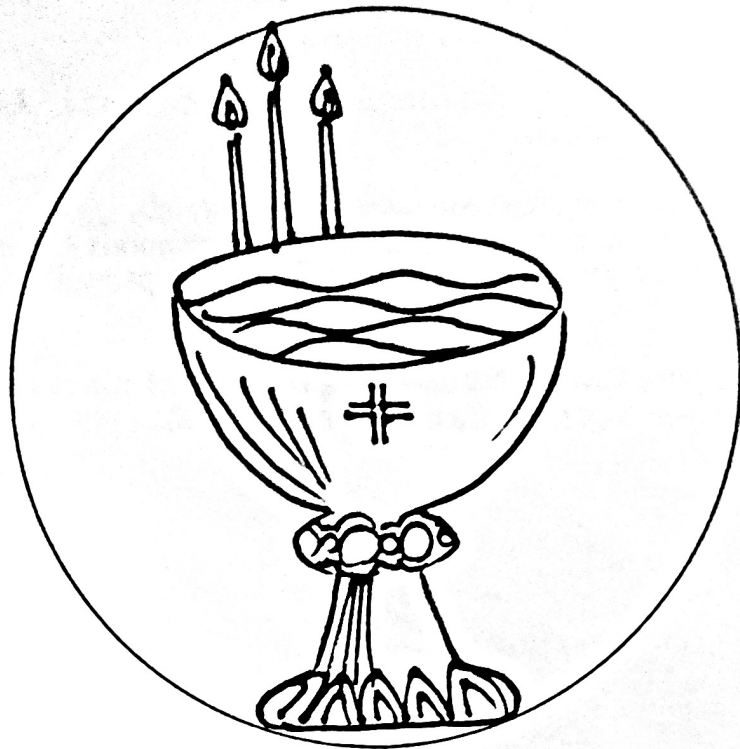
Catherine nodded as she closed the book and stood up. "Good idea! We could even take it to church school and ask our teacher to let us show our pictures when we talk about Baptism in class!"



**RENTS:** Please help your child complete this certificate. Ask him/her to repeat with you:

**"Baptism makes me part of our parish.  
Baptism makes me part of the Orthodox Church.  
Thank you, God, for Your Gift of Baptism!"**

**Please post this certificate in a prominent place and repeat the prayer together throughout the week.**



THE SERVANT OF GOD

\_\_\_\_\_

WAS RECEIVED INTO THE ORTHODOX CHURCH  
THROUGH THE SACRAMENTS OF  
HOLY BAPTISM, CHRISMATION AND COMMUNION.

ON: \_\_\_\_\_

AT: \_\_\_\_\_

BY (PRIEST'S NAME): \_\_\_\_\_

PARENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED