A Dramatization of the Ritual of Baptism

Narrator: We begin at the doors of the church! This is the entrance to the building but also the entrance into the Christian family. In our church you will see that the baptismal font is located just inside the doors. Each time we see it we remember that we came to belong to the Christian family when we were baptised.

The first thing that happens is that you are given a name. This reminds us that each of us is unique to God.

Priest: (addressing parents): What name are you going to give your child? Do you understand your responsibility of bringing up your child as a follower of Jesus? (parents nod yes)

Narrator: Also you are given Godparents. This reminds us that to live as a Christian we need lots of support and guidance. This is not a job to be done alone!

Priest: (addressing godparents): Will you, the godparents, help the parents in this duty of raising their child as a follower of Jesus? (godparents nod yes)

Narrator: Next there is a special welcome for you! The priest does this by making the sign of the cross on your forehead. As he does this he says,

Priest: "(insert name)_______, the Christian community welcomes you with great joy."

Narrator: He also invites your parents and godparents to do the same as a sign that you are a child of God.

Narrator: After this we all listen to the Word of God and offer prayers to God that we will all be faithful followers of the Gospel.

If he reads from one of the four Gospels, he says,

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord!

All: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!

Narrator: When he reads from other parts of the Bible, he says,

Priest: The Word of the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God!

Narrator: After listening to God's word, we might sing the Litany of Saints to remind us that all the wise & holy people who have come before us are also supporting us in our desire to be Christian.

Priest: Holy Mary, Mother of God

All: Pray for us!

Priest: Saint John Chrysostom

All: Pray for us!

Priest: All Holy Men & Women.

All: Pray for us!

Narrator: Next we pray that you will be protected from all evil and harm and anoint you with oil. Oil is a sign of strengthening. Since oil stains