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NSW Celebrant

## Candle Lighting

The candles used for the ceremony can be any type. In some cases grandparents or godparents make the candle specially for the occasion. Other parents buy a special candle from a specialty shop and include on it the baby's name and sometimes even a picture of the baby, or, if they had a unity candle at their marriage, they might use that. If all the participants light a candle these can be small candles floating in a large bowl.

The ceremony can be used as a promise made to the baby, as well as candle lighting.

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### No. 1

Parents together lighting a candle for the child

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let us all now join together in a blessing for (Baby).

(Baby),

Today we officially welcome you.

We wish you long life and happiness in a loving and peaceful world.

May you bring joy to your parents, (Your brothers and sisters), your Godparents,  
Your family and friends.

May you contribute to making this world a better and happier place.

### No. 2

Family members lighting a candle one by one

We light this candle as a symbol of the collective sparks of life and love that is our family.

As the flames join with one another, making one brighter and more lasting flame, so too, do we come together. Much like the flame of this candle, when we share our love with each other our love is not diminished, but enhanced, and, within us, the sparks of divinity burn even brighter.

### No. 3

Let your light shine for all the world to see

The brightness of your life within

The peace that sets you free

## CANDLE LIGHTING

Let your light shine to fill your nights and days  
All will see the deeds you do  
And give your heavenly Father praise.

### No. 4

Celebrant: (Godparents), you have created a special bond with (Baby).

To symbolize your union with him and his family, (Parents of the Baby) have asked you to light their Family Candle. Each of you will first light one of the smaller taper candles. You will then join your flames together to light the Family Candle in the center.

Godparents light smaller tapers from already-lit votive, then join their flames to light the Family Candle

As you join your candles together to light the single Family Candle, the flame flares higher than before. This flame of love symbolizes the unity of family, and how all of your lives will be richer because of your common love for (Baby).

(Parents and the Baby), the united flame is a strong symbol. It represents the light that will guide you through every day of your future together. From this moment forward may the light of life shine bright for you all.

### No. 5

Lighting of Family Candle by both sets of Grandparents

Celebrant: As Grandparents, you have a special bond with (Baby), your granddaughter. To symbolize your union with her, and her family, your son (Name) and your daughter (Name), have asked you to light a family candle on their behalf.

(Paternal Grandparents light a candle on behalf of the Paternal Family).

(Maternal Grandparents light a candle on behalf of the Maternal Family).

Lighting baby candle by Parents

Celebrant: (Baby's Parents) will now light their own family candle, using those candles lit by their parents.

Just as her grandparents' candles represent (Baby's) roots, so the single candle lit by her parents, represents (Baby's) own new beginning.

## CANDLE LIGHTING

Let light fill her nights and days, bringing her peace and love all the days of her life.

### No. 6

Father: Blessed are all who have come here on this happy occasion (lights candle and hands to the mother to light other candles from)

Mother: (lights candles)  
These candles celebrate the birth of this child, a new light in our hearts and in this home.

(Passes candle to Sponsor)

Sponsor: (lights candles)  
These candles celebrate the emergence of this child from the darkness of the womb into the light of the world.

(Passes candle to Second Sponsor)

Sponsor: (lights candles)  
These candles celebrate the warmth of our love from which this child was created.

All: Let his life be one of Truth, Love, and Happiness.

### No. 7

Friend: (fills a cup with wine)  
This cup is filled with the new wine of a life just begun. The sweetness of its taste is the joy that this child brings us.

The cup is passed around the room, each person taking a sip

Friend: On this day, we declare that we bring this child into the community of this family and circle of friends. May this name we now bestow come to have ever greater meaning for him.

Friend: May (Baby's) life be one of security and trust.

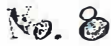
Friend: May (Baby's) life shine with dignity and freedom.

Friend: May we bring (Baby) into the way of learning, into the way of growth. May he give and receive love, and may he be concerned with family and community, justice and healing.

Father: May the Lord bless and keep our son. May he make his countenance shine upon him, and be gracious to him.

## CANDLE LIGHTING

Thank you all for joining us this evening, and thank you for your blessings on our son and on us.



Celebrant: We meet together on this special day to celebrate the birth and naming of this child, and to witness solemn undertakings on her behalf made by her parents, godparents, and mentor.

You have brought your child here to be welcomed into the circle of your family and friends. What name have you chosen?

Parents: We have chosen the name (Baby).

Parents: (light a candle, saying):

In honour of (Baby), we light this candle. The light stands for a new life and the hopes we have for her. The warmth of the flame represents the warmth of human love and friendship. We light it for her. May her life never be dark.

Celebrant: Will you care for (Baby), keep her, clothe her, shelter and protect her, for as long as she needs you to the best of your ability?

Parents: I will.

Celebrant: Will you try to show her, by your example, how to live a true and good life?

Parents: I will.

Celebrant: Will you surround her with affection and love?

Parents: I will.

Celebrant: Will you encourage and support her as she grows up, helping, especially in times of trouble, and making as sure as you can that no harm comes near her?

Parents: I will.

Celebrant: Do you promise to love and cherish her all your lives?

Parents: I do.