

# Churches and Ecclesial Communities with Valid Baptism

## Non-Catholic Churches with Valid Baptism

- **Assyrian Church of the East**
- **Byzantine Orthodox Churches (all)**
- **Oriental Orthodox Churches (Armenian, Coptic, Eritrean, Ethiopian, Malankara, Syriac)**
- **Antiochian Churches (Chaldean, Malabarese, Malankarese, Maronite, Syro-Antiochian)**

## Ecclesial Communities with Likely Valid Baptism

- Knowing whether a community celebrates baptism validly or not is important in many situations, such as when a Catholic is marrying a non-Catholic. This list is based as far as possible on information on websites of the communities themselves. If the community's website supports a conclusion that the community celebrates baptism with a genuine washing with water and the use of the Trinitarian formula ("in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"), then the proper intention by the minister is presumed.
- Some denominations are somewhat fluid and merge and divide at different times. The practices of the community at the time of the baptism needs to be considered.
- This list is based on the general practice of the denomination; it does not guarantee that each particular minister celebrates baptism validly.
- Beware of the "dedication of children" or other similar ceremonies that are not baptism ceremonies.
- Some denominations also distinguish between water baptism as an "ordinance" and "baptism of the Holy Spirit." A baptism of the Holy Spirit, without water and without the Trinitarian formula, would not constitute a valid baptism. Baptism as an "ordinance" might be valid.
- Some ecclesial communities use the name of their denomination in the title of their individual locations. Some do not. Others do so inconsistently.

- **Amish**
- **Adventist**
- **African Methodist Episcopal**
- **Alexandrian: Coptic**
- **Alexandrian: Ethiopian**
- **All Eastern non-Catholics (Orthodox)**
- **Amish/Mennonite**
- **Anglican Communion / Episcopalian**
- **Apostolic Catholic Church** (Originating in the Philippines)
- **Apostolic Christian Church**
- **Apostolic Church**
- **Apostolic Faith Mission International** (Originating in South Africa)
- **Armenian Apostolic**
- **Assembly of God / Asambleas de Dios / King's Cathedral / King's Chapel**
- **Associated Gospel Churches** (Military chaplains)
- **Assyrian Church of the East**
- **Baptist** (Individual Baptist congregations usually are members of a larger Baptist convention or association, although some are unaffiliated, but all appear to celebrate valid baptism.)
- **Berean Bible Church**
- **Calvary Chapel** (Includes Breath of Life Christian Ministries, Horizon Christian Fellowship, One Love Ministries, Shorebreak Church,)
- **Calvary Community Church**
- **Catholic Apostolic Church** (Originating in Brazil)

- **Christian and Missionary Alliance (The Alliance)**
- **Christian Congregation** (Originating in Brazil)
- **Christian Reformed Church**
- **Church of God** (Based in Anderson, Indiana)
- **Church of God** (Based in Charleston, Tennessee)
- **Church of God** (Based in Cleveland, Tennessee)
- **Church of God in Christ**
- **Church of God of Prophecy**
- **Church of Pentecost**
- **Church of the Brethren (Dunkers)**
- **Church of the Lord (Aladura)** (Originating in Nigeria)
- **Church of the Nazarene**
- **Conservative Congregational Christian Conference**
- **Ekalesia, The Foundation of Jesus Christ**
- **Eternal Sacred Order of Cherubim and Seraphim** (Originating in Nigeria)
- **Evangelical Church**
- **Evangelical Covenant Church**
- **Evangelical Free Church of America**
- **Foursquare Gospel Church / Hope Chapel / New Hope**
- **Free Methodist Church**
- **Honolulu Christian Church**
- **Iglesia Filipina Independiente / Philippine Independent Church**
- **International Assemblies of the First Born**
- **International City of Refuge Christian Church Ministries**
- **International Pentecostal Holiness Church**
- **Island Family Christian Church**
- **Jesus is Lord Church**
- **Liberal Catholic**
- **Lutheran** (There are four principal Lutheran denominations and some unaffiliated, but all appear to celebrate valid baptism.)
- **Manna Church**
- **Mennonites**
- **Moravians**
- **New Apostolic Church**
- **New Life Body of Christ**
- **Old Catholic and Traditional Church**
- **San Judas Tadeo Old Catholic Church**
- **Our Lady of the Lakes Old Catholic and Traditional Church**
- **Our Lady of Guadalupe Old Catholic Church (Carson)**
- **Old Roman Catholic**
- **Open Bible Churches**
- **Pacific Islands Bible Church**
- **Pentecostal Church of God**
- **Pentecostal Mission / New Testament Church / Universal Pentecostal Church** (Originating in Sri Lanka)
- **Polish National Catholic**
- **Presbyterian**
- **Reformed Baptist Church**
- **Reformed Church in America**
- **Reformed Episcopal Church**

- **Reformed Evangelical Anglican Church**
- **Society of St. Piux X**
- **St. Cecilia Catholic Community ECC (Palm Springs)**
- **St. Matthew Ecumenical Catholic Church (Orange)**
- **Traditional Anglican Communion**
- **United Reformed**
- **United Church of Canada**
- **United Church of Christ (UCC)**
- **United Methodist / Evangelical United Brethren / African Methodist Episcopal (AME) / AME Zion / Christian Methodist Episcopal / Union American Methodist Episcopal** (These denominations now in full communion.) [believe/documents/by-water-spirit-baptism http://www.ame-church.com/our-church/our-beliefs/](http://www.ame-church.com/our-church/our-beliefs/by-water-spirit-baptism)
- **Uniting Church in Australia**
- **Unity of the Brethren**
- **Universal Church of the Kingdom of God**
- **Vineyard Churches**
- **Wesleyan Church**
- **Word of Life Christian Center**
- **Zion Christian Church** (Originating in southern Africa)

## Communities with Doubtful or Invalid Baptism

- **Affirming Pentecostal Church International**
- **African Church of the Holy Spirit** (Originating in Kenya)
- **African Israel Church Nineveh**
- **Amma Church of Christ**
- **American Ethical Union**
- **American (United American) Catholic Church**
- **Apostolic Assemblies of Christ**
- **Apostolic Assembly of the Faith in Christ Jesus**
- **Apostolic Faith Church**
- **Apostolic Overcoming Holy Church of God**
- **Ark of Safety Christian Fellowship**
- **Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ**
- **Bible Way Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ**
- **Christadelphians**
- **Christian and Missionary Alliance**
- **Church of Christ / Christian Church / Community Church** (Not including those part of the United Church of Christ; autonomous, non-denominational communities in the "Restoration Movement" which do not accept creeds so are not clearly Trinitarian in their beliefs and lack standardized baptismal practices.)
- **Churches of Christ**
- **Church of Christ Light of the Holy Spirit** (Originating in Congo)
- **Church of Daniel's Band**
- **Church of Divine Science**
- **Church of Jesus Christ on Earth by His Special Envoy Simon Kimbangu** (Originating in Congo)
- **Church of the United Brethren in Christ**
- **Churches of Jesus Christ International**
- **Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith**

- **Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**
- **Community of Christ**
- **Crusaders of the Divine Church of Christ** (They believe in four persons in one God, adding "God the Mother")
- **Divine Love Ministry**
- **Door of Faith**
- **Evangelical Christian Church (Christian Disciples) in Canada**
- **Evangelical Free Church of Canada**
- **Every Nation Ministries** (While this association of churches is Trinitarian in doctrine, it lacks standardized baptismal practices.)
- **Faith in Jesus Church**
- **Friends of Man** [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Friends\\_of\\_Man](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Friends_of_Man)
- **Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity (Moonies)**
- **Hutterites**
- **Iglesia ni Cristo / Iglesia ni Kristo**
- **Independent Church of Filipino Christians** (Aglipayans under the Fonacier faction using a Unitarian formula Source: Gary Noel S. Formoso, JCL, "The Problem of Validity of Aglipayan Baptism," Philippine Canonical Forum VII (2005), pp. 157-177.
- **International Christian Church (Sold Out Discipling Movement)**
- **Jehovah's Witnesses**
- **Jesus is Alive Church**
- **La Luz del Mundo / Light of the World**
- **Lighthouse Christian Fellowship**
- **Living for Christ Ministries**
- **Missionary Church**
- **Metropolitan Community Church**
- **Moravian**
- **Pentecostal Assemblies of the World**
- **Plymouth Brethren**
- **Prince of Peace Community Church**
- **Seventh Day Adventists**
- **Spiritualists** (e.g., National Spiritualist Association of Churches, United Spiritualist Church Association)
- **True Jesus Church**
- **Union of Spiritual Communities of Christ (Doukhobors)**
- **Unitarian Universalist Association**
- **United Pentecostal Church International**
- **United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing (Shakers)**

## Communities with Officially Declared Invalid Baptism

- **Creator, Redeemer, Sanctifier:** (Any baptism celebrated "In the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier," or other paraphrase of the Trinitarian formula, is invalid. This applies to Catholic ceremonies as well as by those by Protestant denominations using gender-neutral language.
- **Amana Church Society**
- **American Ethical Union**
- **Apostolic Church**
- **Apostolic Faith Mission**
- **Baha'i**

- **Bohemian Free Thinkers**
- **Buddhist**
- **Children of God**
- **Christadelphians**
- **Christian Community of Rudolf Steiner**
- **Christian Scientist**
- **Christian Universalist Brotherhood**
- **Church of Daniel's Band**
- **Church of Divine Science**
- **Church of Illumination**
- **Church of the Lord of Jesus Christ (Winona Ontario)**
- **Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon)**
- **Church of the New Jerusalem**
- **Church of Revelation**
- **Church of Scientology**
- **Church of the Universal Brotherhood (Doukhobors)**
- **Erieside Church**
- **First Church of Christ Scientist (Mary Baker Eddy)**
- **Freemasons (no baptism)**
- **General Assembly of Spiritualist**
- **Hindu**
- **Hephzibah Faith Missionary Assoc**
- **House of David Church**
- **Iglesia ni Kristo (Philippines)**
- **Islam (Muslim)**
- **Independent Church of Filipino Christians**
- **Jehovah's Witnesses**
- **Jewish**
- **Mariners Church**
- **Metropolitan Church Association**
- **Moonies (Reunification Church)**
- **National David Spiritual Temple of Christ Church Union**
- **National Spiritual Association**
- **New Church of Mr. Emmanuel Swedenborg / General Church of the New Jerusalem**
- **New Jerusalem Church "new age church"**
- **Pentecostal Churches (using Unitarian Formula)**
- **People's Church of Chicago**
- **Plymouth Brethren**
- **Quakers (Friends)**
- **Reunification Church (Moonies)**
- **Saddleback Church**
- **Shakers**
- **Spiritualist Church**
- **The New Church**
- **United Society of Believers**
- **Unitarians/Universalists**
- **Universal Emancipation Church**
- **Vedanta Society**
- **Watchtower Society (Jehovah's Witnesses)**
- **Word Harves**

- **Worldwide Church of God (Before mid-1990s)**

## Some Communities with Christian Beliefs Do Not Baptize

- Church of Christ Scientist (Christian Scientists)
- Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) (Most do not baptize)
- Salvation Army

**Note on China: Baptized members of the Chinese Patriotic Catholic Association may be considered regular Catholics.**

**It is difficult to determine the validity of baptisms for other Christians from China. Three-Self Protestant Churches (part of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement) likely celebrate baptism validly. Due to their connection with the Plymouth Brethren, the Local Churches (Church Assembly Hall) may not celebrate baptism validly. Due to the fact that not all Pentecostals are Trinitarian, skepticism needs to be exercised about the baptism conferred by the Born Again Movement (Word of Life Church or All Ranges Church), the Tanghe Fellowship (China Gospel Fellowship) and the Fangcheng Fellowship.**