**15811, JR Angelo**

Good Afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you all for being here today to celebrate the addition to our family. I am honored to welcome everyone here today for the baptism of young Thomas, the newborn son of my brother-in-law Tommy and his wife Christine. I have the supreme honor of being this little man’s godfather. Thomas is a very special little boy and I hope you all have the opportunity to get to know him as he grows up.

My wife and I love children, as you can tell by the fact we have six kids of our own, so we were elated when Tommy and Christine informed us of their decision to adopt. We had always struggled with feelings of guilt since we have been so very blessed, while they struggled for many years with several failed pregnancies and infertility before they made their decision. When they told me they had decided to adopt a new born African American baby boy and asked me to be the godfather, I was absolutely thrilled to accept.

Tommy and Christine have always been active in their lives and became like a second set of parents to my kids. They supported us in both the joys and struggles of parenthood, even though they didn’t have their own children yet. Through it all, Tommy and Christine went through more than a decade of ups and downs, false hope, and despair, but now they are blessed with little Tommy.

There are so many things that I love about Tommy. He has a wonderful smile that lights up his entire face. And when he is happy, he just makes everyone around him happy. His joy is simply contagious. We love it when he visits our crazy, chaotic house. You might think we have a full house with our six kids, but Tommy is a playful addition to our own personal brand of craziness. Our kids love it when he comes to visit. Everyone loves to play with and spoil a baby and none of our kids are babies any longer, so they love it when Tommy visits us.

I remember we had such a wonderful vacation with my brother-in-law and his family when we went to Woodloch Pines. It was a beautiful place to visit and a wonderful place to take a family. The children spent hours playing with each other and enjoying time with little Tommy. It was a wonderful, happy time for both our families and one we’ll never forget. We look forward to many more vacations together in the future. Tommy is now the prince of the family, we all love him very much. He is such a gift of life to my brother-in-law and his wife and he is truly loved by all. I now believe in fate.

Today we gather to bless this new member of our family and baptize him into our faith. Thank you for joining with us to welcome Tommy and help his parents to lead and guide him by example as he grows up.

Thank you