

Dennis Clark

A NAME AND A BLESSING

the father and his friends, holding
the holy high priesthood and the infant,
stand in a circle, facing each other,
right hands supporting the baby —
rising, falling to gentle it —
left hands on the next near neighbor shoulder,
on the stand before the meeting of saints
this fast and testimony sunday;

having forsaken food for thought,
having sought for the companionship of
the holy ghost (a spirit of promise),
considering the creation
of bodies (his, his wife's and god's)
he is to name and bless, the father now
closes his eyes to shut the world out,
bows his head to see the child,

begins talking with god into
the microphone so the congregation
may share revelation of fatherhead;
like making an application
he labels the frightened child,
then plunges into blessing if the ghost
lures him down, under forms and records to
that silence of mind where spirit
speaks freely in the depths of life,
of deaths; and hears, searching experience
for knowledge of this child that he may learn
to bless it, then asks father god
to signify thru spirit he
has found resources to impart by mind
to help his child grow into resonance
with the child jesus, the man christ.