

Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation

OCIA

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As we begin....let's review



- Experience via 5 senses
- Revelation through material reality

Review....

- Divisions of sacraments
 - Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation)
 - Healing (Reconciliation, Anointing of sick)
 - Vocation or Mission (Orders, Matrimony)

Agenda for tonight:

- The Sacrament of Baptism
 - *Why Baptism?*
 - *The Rite of Baptism*
 - *Brief history*
 - *Signs and symbols*
- The Sacrament of Confirmation
 - *Scripture*
 - *Fruits of the Holy Spirit*



What is a Sacrament?

- From Latin *sacramentum*:
- To make a guarantee
- Roman soldiers made a *sacramentum*, an oath of allegiance to the emperor.
- Tertullian (225): Baptism as *sacramentum*, the pledge Christians took to be forever in the service of Christ



*In Greek:
Mysterion*

μυστήριον

*not something
unknowable.*

*Rather, it is
what can only
be known
through
revelation*

- **Something revealed, hidden**

- **We experience only through our 5 senses**

Touch, taste, smell, hear, sight

- **God reveals to us through our senses**

- **A wide-ranging word embracing all the ways that God reaches out to us in the world, in our lives.**

Something hidden; something revealed

- Sacraments have a visible and invisible reality; a reality open to our senses, but grasped in fullness only through the eyes of faith.
- Example: a parent's hug is the visible reality, the underlying reality is the conveyance of love; we cannot "see" the love expressed in the hug



Sacramental Groupings



Initiation



Mission



Healing

Initiation

- **Baptism**
 - **Confirmation**
 - **Eucharist**
-
- Incorporate us into the Body of Christ, the Church
 - Mark on the soul—character
 - Baptism & Confirmation only once



Mission and Communion

- **Orders**
- **Matrimony**
- **Sacraments of service**
- **Directed toward the salvation**
 - of others
- **Confers a particular mission in the Church**
- **Serves to build up the people of God.**





Healing

- Penance
- Anointing of the Sick
- Spiritual Healing



A sacrament:

- **An outward sign (we can sense it)**
- **Instituted by Jesus Christ**
- **To give grace**

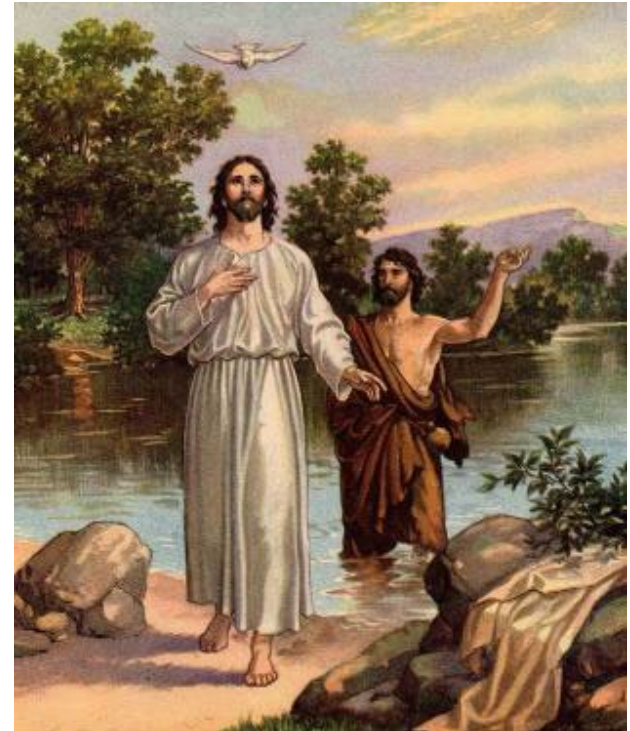
An outward sign....

- We see the outward expression in the sacraments: the words, water, oil, laying on of hands
- The invisible reality we cannot see is God's grace, God's initiative in redeeming us through the death and resurrection of Jesus.



Instituted by Christ...

- **More on this is in a moment.....**



To give grace.

- **What is grace?**

What is Grace?

Grace is God's favor: a participation in God's life.

Sanctifying Grace makes us **holy**

Is the indwelling of the Holy Spirit

The love of God is poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who is given to us (Romans 5:5)

Grace makes us an adopted child of God, able to share in the inheritance of Heaven

Consent is required; we can do nothing to earn grace, but we can refuse it, or fail to keep it by the way we live our life.

- **Judaism had sacraments: blessings, anointing with oil, ritual meals, sacrificial offerings**
 - **The LORD said to Moses, ..."With this sacred anointing oil you shall anoint the meeting tent and the ark of the commandments, the table and all its appurtenances, the lampstand and its appurtenances, the altar of incense and the altar of holocausts with all its appurtenances, and the laver with its base. When you have consecrated them, they shall be most sacred; whatever touches them shall be sacred. Aaron and his sons you shall also anoint and consecrate as my priests. To the Israelites you shall say: As sacred anointing oil this shall belong to me throughout your generations. (*Exodus 30*)**
- **All showed God's saving presence and special power**

Who celebrates?

- Sacraments are liturgical—work of God and God's church
- Whole body of Christ, the whole community, animated by the Holy Spirit celebrate
- Not a private prayer but a community-- public act of worship
- Ordained clergy have unique function, servant, Presider, act in the person of Christ the head of the body



The Sacramental Rite of Baptism

The Gateway to Life in the Spirit

- A forward looking sacrament...journey, goal is heaven

Why Baptism?

- No one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit (John 3:5)



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- ▶ Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved (Mk 16:16)
- ▶ **A Dominical command:** Go out, teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the father, and the son, and the holy spirit. (Matthew 28)
- ▶ *(Instituted by Jesus)*

- **Originally in Judaism a ceremonial washing**
- **Meaning immersion and bath**
- **Immersion in water a sign of death**
- **Come out alive joined in death of Christ and raised with him through the power of God (Col 2:12)**



The Grace of Baptism:

- ▶ Immersion in water symbolizes not only death and purification, but also regeneration and renewal (COCC 1262)
- ▶ Two principal effects are:
 - ▶ ***Purification from sins***
 - ▶ ***A new birth in the Holy Spirit***



Baptism forgives sins:

- All sins are forgiven: original and personal
- What is “original sin?”
 - Genesis
 - Humans chose to follow their own will, not God’s
 - Desire to be “God”
 - We have a better way
 - Loss of original plan of God, became subject to the law of death
 - Suffering, illness, death, inclination to sin are consequences (temporal punishment)

We are a
new
creature

- Birth into new life by which we become a new creature: **adopted child of God**
- **A temple of the Holy Spirit**
- Sanctifying grace; gift from God makes us holy
- **Gift of faith**, enabling the baptized to believe in God, hope in God, and to love God
- **Anointed Priest, Prophet, King**—more later
- Able to grow in goodness
- An **indelible spiritual mark**—a seal or character—cannot be repeated once given
 - We are configured to Christ—We Belong to Him!

Into the Body of Christ

- Baptism makes us members of the Body of Christ
- Incorporates us into the Church
- *“Living stones to be built into a spiritual house” (St Peter)*
- No longer belong to our self, but to Christ

- Co-heirs in the Kingdom of God
 - The gates of heaven are open to us

Infants or Adults?

- Acts of the Apostles “whole families” baptized
- *Apostolic Tradition* (215 AD document) speaks about baptizing the children before the adults, and having their parents or another family member answer for them if they are unable to do so
- By 8th Century, infant baptism becomes the regular, expected and necessary practice of initiation

Baptism is a Gift and Burden

- A commitment to following Christ
- The door to other sacraments
- Orientation and guidelines for living
- As if “a change of ownership and allegiance”
- Gives us the spiritual strength and resources to bear the burden
 - To remain faithful to our new identity as child of God
- Baptism puts us into the service of Christ

The Rite of Baptism for Children

- Begin at the door of the Church
 - The Symbolism is.....
- What name do you give your child?

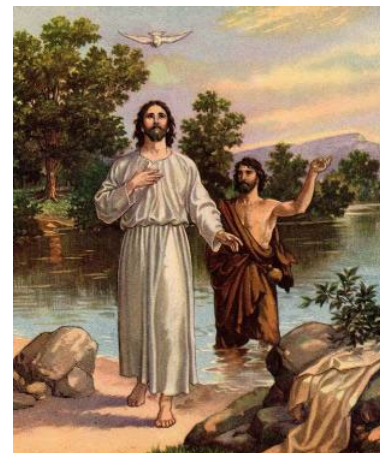


The Rite of Baptism

- What name do you give your child?
- What do you ask of God's Church for your child?
- **BAPTISM** or **FAITH**

You have asked to have your child baptized....

▶ ***Do you clearly understand and freely accept what you are undertaking?***



Asking Church to be ever-present in the life of the child; to help you as you fulfill your responsibility

Can postpone baptism if there is question of whether child will be nurtured in the faith

Claimed for Christ

- **I sign you with the sign of the cross of Christ our Savior...cross.**
- **Trace the cross on the forehead**
- **Parents and Godparents also**
- **Enter the Church to hear the Word of God**



Exorcism and anointing

- **Prayer of exorcism and anointing with Oil of Catechumens**
- **Prayer to keep the child from evil throughout his life; anointing to strengthen against the powers of the devil.**

Blessing of the water

- **Blessing recalls the symbol of water throughout salvation history**
 - *Creation*
 - *The Flood*
 - *Red Sea*
 - *Jordan*
 - *Water from the side of Jesus on the cross*
 - *Dominical command*
 - *Invocation of the Holy Spirit*



Baptismal Promises to God

- Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith
- Renew the vows of your own baptism
- Reject sin
- Profess faith in Jesus

- Your response is **“I DO!”**

At the font:

- One family at a time
- With head over the over font, Presider will infuse (pour) water over the head while saying the words “I baptize you...”
- May immerse...Presider can partially immerse a child into font...body and head except face. Mother to lift out of font. Our font is not big enough to do this well.
- Towel available to dry off. Towel is not a souvenir

Anointing with Sacred Chrism

- ▶ **Prayer of anointing**
- ▶ **Sign of anointing as priest, prophet and king**
- ▶ ***Priest: offer prayer and sacrifice***
- ▶ ***Prophet: witness to Christ***
- ▶ ***King: Service to Body of Christ***
- ▶ **Perfumed oil**
- ▶ **Done on crown of head**



White Garment

- After anointing is the clothing with white garment
- ...See in this white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity...
- A powerful symbol!
- From Book of Revelation's heavenly liturgy saints clothed in white garments washed clean in the blood of the lamb. (Rev 7: 9-17)
- Goal of all is to be a saint in heaven





Paschal
Candle

- **Godparents asked to come forward**
- **Receive lighted candle, lit from the Easter candle.**
- **Sign of Christ our light**
- **Baptism is called the sacrament of enlightenment.**

The Beginning and the End

- **Two symbols use at the beginning and the end of our faith journey:**
- **The White Garment**
- **The Paschal Candle**

Be Opened

- Prayer of Ephphetha
- “May the Lord...grant that you may soon receive his word with your ears and profess the faith with your lips....”
- Optional rite
- May include touching of lips and ears



Conclusion at the Altar

- **Anticipates participation in the Eucharist (the Mass)**
- **Procession to altar**
- **Newly baptized and parents stand close to Presider**
- **Lord's Prayer**
- **Special blessings of Mother, Father, All assembled**
- **Dismissal**

A real role,
not honorary

- ▶ **“Godparent” is a Job description**, not honorary title:
- ▶ Godparents: 1 is sufficient
- ▶ Must be **confirmed Catholic befitting the role (practicing)**
- ▶ If 2, one must be male; one female (CCL 873)
- ▶ **16 years** of age
- ▶ Should be that person known to you to be a suburb witness to their Catholic faith...your role model to help you instill faith in your child, and help you with your own journey
- ▶ 1 may be Christian witness

Children die before Baptism?

- **Church entrusts them to the mercy of God**
- **God is not bound by His Sacraments**

Baptism of Blood, Desire

- Die for their faith in Christ before Baptism...they are saved by Baptism of Blood
- Catechumens who die before Baptism but have repented their sins are saved by Baptism of Desire
- Do not know Gospels....seek the truth and try to do God's will as they understand....we can suppose would have desired baptism

Questions?





*"Be Sealed with the Gift
of the Holy Spirit"*

Confirmation

Sacrament of Confirmation

- **Prophets of the Old Testament foretold the coming of the Holy Spirit:**
- **Isaiah 11: 1-4a:**
 - The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.....
- **Ezekiel 26: 23-28:**
 - I will put my spirit within you...
- **Acts 1:3-8:**
 - You will be baptized with the Holy Spirit....
- **Acts 8:14-17**
 - They laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit
- **Acts 2:1-4**
 - They were all filled with the Holy Spirit....

Prayer from the Rite of Baptism for Children

Dearly beloved,

This child has received new life through Baptism. He is now called a “child of God” for so indeed he is.

In confirmation,

He will receive the fullness of God’s Spirit.

In Holy Communion, he will share the banquet of Christ’s sacrifice, calling God his Father in the midst of the Church.

Confirmation completes the grace
received at Baptism

It is a “firming” or “strengthening”
of the Spirit in your life

Become a true witness to Christ

Only once...indelible mark –or
character—on your soul

Bishop Barron on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit



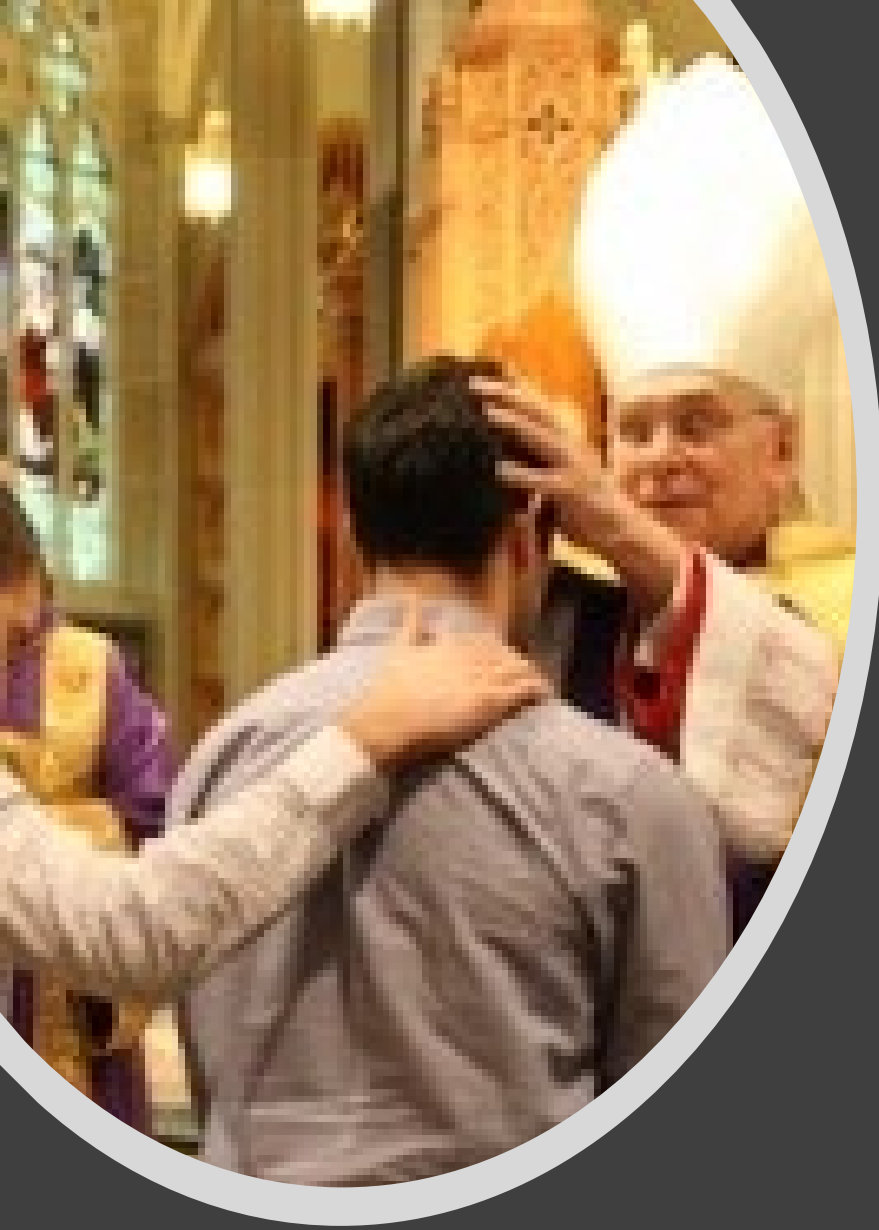
Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- **Wisdom:** *discern the will of God*
- **Knowledge:** *Drawn to prayer*
- **Understanding:** *know yourself, know God*
- **Counsel** (right judgment): *moral life*
- **Fortitude** (courage): *trust, practice faith without fear*
- **Piety** (reverence): *respect for the Creator, Savior, Sanctifier*
- **Fear of the Lord** (wonder and awe): *honesty in our relationship with God*

Response to the gifts:

- We begin to “bear fruit”

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
goodness, generosity, gentleness,
faithfulness, modesty, self-control and
chastity



The Rite of Confirmation

- Bishop as Ordinary Minister
- State of Grace to receive
- Done within the Liturgy of the Mass

The Rite of Confirmation....

- Renewal of Baptismal Promises
- Laying on of hands
 - Prayer of anointing
- Anointing with Sacred Chrism
 - ‘Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit’
 - Sign of Peace

Confirmation Name

- **Name changes in Scripture....**
- **Special Patron Saint**
 - **or baptismal name if a saint**

Mission and Witness

- **Confirmation deepens our call to be missionary **witnesses for Christ****
 - In our families...neighborhoods...work places...the world!
- **Confirmation is the Sacrament that makes possible **courageous witness****
 - Promote teachings of the Gospel, marriage, support the ideals of family life, be brave in defending life.
 - **To be determined that the light of Christ's compassion and peace will shine everywhere on earth.**



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- Jan 16
 - Marriage and Holy Orders
 - Jan 23
 - Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick
 - Jan 30
 - The Sacrament of the Eucharist



Next
Time