

FOCUS QUESTIONS

- 1) Why is Baptism the basis and foundation of the Christian life?
- 2) What does it mean to prefigure something?
- 3) What are three Old Testament events that prefigured Baptism?
- 4) How does the story of Noah and the ark prefigure Baptism?
- 5) How is Noah's ark a type or prefigurement of the Church?
- 6) How does the crossing of the Red Sea prefigure Baptism?
- 7) How did the Chosen People crossing the River Jordan also prefigure Baptism?
- 8) What is the origin of the word baptize?
- 9) What is the connection between baptizein and the Hebrew word tabal?
- 10) What does it mean to say that water's use in ritualistic practice allows the symbolic physical action to transcend into metaphysical reality?
- 11) What were two daily practices of the Essenes?
- 12) What did St. John the Baptist have in common with the Essenes?
- 13) How did St. John the Baptist describe the difference between his baptism and the Baptism instituted by Christ?
- 14) What is sin?
- 15) What is the distinction between mortal and venial sin?
- 16) What is concupiscence?
- 17) What is the first, or Original, Sin?
- 18) What did Original Sin introduce into the world?
- 19) What does it mean to be born into a fallen state?
- 20) How do we receive the benefit of the forgiveness of sins (Original and actual), which Christ won on the Cross?
- 21) What are two basic forms of applying the matter (i.e., the water) of the Sacrament of Baptism? Describe each.
- 22) What is good about the reemergence of the practice of Baptism by immersion in the Western Church?
- 23) What is form of Baptism in the Latin Rite?
- 24) Who is the ordinary minister of Baptism?
- 25) Who can administer Baptism in case of emergency?
- 26) Why is the baptized given a saint's name?
- 27) What responsibilities do the parents of the baptized infant freely accept?
- 28) Why is the Christian home a domestic church?
- 29) What should be done in a situation where there is no hope that the child will be brought up in the Catholic Faith?
- 30) What is the role of the godparents or sponsors?

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- 31) Why can a non-Christian not be a godparent?
- 32) What are the major sections of the baptismal liturgy?
- 33) What is the basic vocation of every Christian?
- 34) What is the catechumenate?
- 35) What does it mean to say that Baptism is a Sacrament of Faith?
- 36) In the case of children not capable of explicitly expressing their faith or of requesting Baptism, who make the Profession of Faith?
- 37) What is required for a child whose parents make the profession of faith for him or her?
- 38) Who can be baptized?
- 39) How old is the practice of infant Baptism?
- 40) Why does infant Baptism accord with reason?
- 41) Is infant Baptism an imposition on the child's freedom?
- 42) How does infant Baptism contribute to the spiritual growth of the family?
- 43) What does the Church mean when it teaches that Baptism is necessary to be saved?
- 44) Why is it not unreasonable to require Baptism for those who have heard the Gospel and understand that it is necessary for salvation?
- 45) What does it mean that the Church is bound to the sacraments but God is not?