

# Baptism

IS THE BASIS FOR THE WHOLE CHRISTIAN LIFE, the door to the other sacraments. Recipients are freed from sin and born anew as children of God, becoming members of the Church and sharers in its mission.

## KEY WORDS AND ACTIONS:

"I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit," while pouring of water on the head, or via immersion.

## FIND IT IN THE BIBLE:

*"Go ... make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."* – MATTHEW 28:19-20

Also: Mt 3:11-17; Mk 1:4-5; 16:16; Lk 3:16; Acts 2:38-41; 1 Cor 12:13; Gal 3: 27; Eph 4:5

## THE GRACES GIVEN:

- \* Forgiveness of original sin, all personal sins, and all punishment for sin.
- \* New life — "a new creation" (2 Cor 5:17) — as an adopted child of God, a co-heir with Christ, a temple of the Holy Spirit.
- \* The theological virtues to believe, hope, and love God.
- \* Power to follow the Spirit's prompting, grow in goodness, and develop in the spiritual life.
- \* Membership in the Body of Christ, the Church.
- \* Anointed to share in Christ's priestly, prophetic, and kingly mission.

**MINISTER OF THE SACRAMENT:** Priest or deacon. In dire necessity, any person can baptize using the key words and actions above. (See CCC, 1284.)

**TO BAPTIZE**  
means "to plunge"  
or "immerse."



## SIGNS:

### Water =

cleansing from sin; new life



### White Garment =

rising with Christ, or "clothed" with Christ (Gal 3:27)



**Candle =** the light of Christ; the newly baptized are "the light of the world" (Mt 5:14)



## IN THE CATECHISM:

CCC, 1213-1284

**BAPTISM IS ONLY GIVEN ONCE.**