



Inside the Vatican:

Infant Baptism

INFANT BAPTISM?

- Original Sin
- Christ's Redemption
- What baptism does
- Infant baptism
- Q & A

ORIGINAL SIN

¹² Therefore as sin came into the world through one man and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all men sinned¹³ sin indeed was in the world before the law was given.



Romans 5:12-13



Inherited Sin

- Separated from God's love
- Became infused w/human nature
- Ex: like genetic disease

Original Sin vs. Personal Sin

Original Sin

- Inherited
- Not a choice
- Disposition towards sin – brokenness/fallen nature

Personal Sin

- Choice
- Movement of will power/reason

Jesus Died to Save Us From Sin



Purpose of Christ

- The WHOLE PURPOSE OF CHRIST was to heal this rift between God & man. He chose to administer the reparation done by his Death and Resurrection through **Baptism**

Great Commission

- Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20** teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.”
- Matthew 28:19-20

Baptism

- Restores soul's ability to receive God's love/graces
- Has nothing to do with the meritorious efforts of the person receiving - purely God's mercy



Is Baptism Necessary?

- “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit” – John 3:5
- Baptism is necessary for salvation for those to whom the Gospel has been proclaimed and who have had the possibility of asking for this sacrament.⁶² The Church does not know of any means other than Baptism that assures entry into eternal beatitude.
–CCC1257

Can Infants be Baptized?

- Born with a fallen human nature and tainted by original sin, children also have need of the new birth in Baptism to be freed from the power of darkness and brought into the realm of the freedom of the children of God, to which all men are called.⁵⁰ The sheer gratuitousness of the grace of salvation is particularly manifest in infant Baptism. The Church and the parents would deny a child the priceless grace of becoming a child of God were they not to confer Baptism shortly after birth.
 - –CCC 1250

Continued...

- "By this grace baptized infants too are engrafted into his [Christ's] body, infants who certainly are not yet able to imitate anyone. Christ, in whom all are made alive . . . gives also the most hidden grace of his Spirit to believers, grace which he secretly infuses even into infants. The sacrament of baptism is most assuredly the sacrament of regeneration." St. Augustine

Infant Baptism responsibility to parents

- Infant baptism is parents promising to raise the child in the catholic faith
- Baptism is completed in the Sacrament of Confirmation
- Baptism is a communal sacrament



Questions????