



Inside the Vatican:

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Baptism: The Door to Spiritual Life

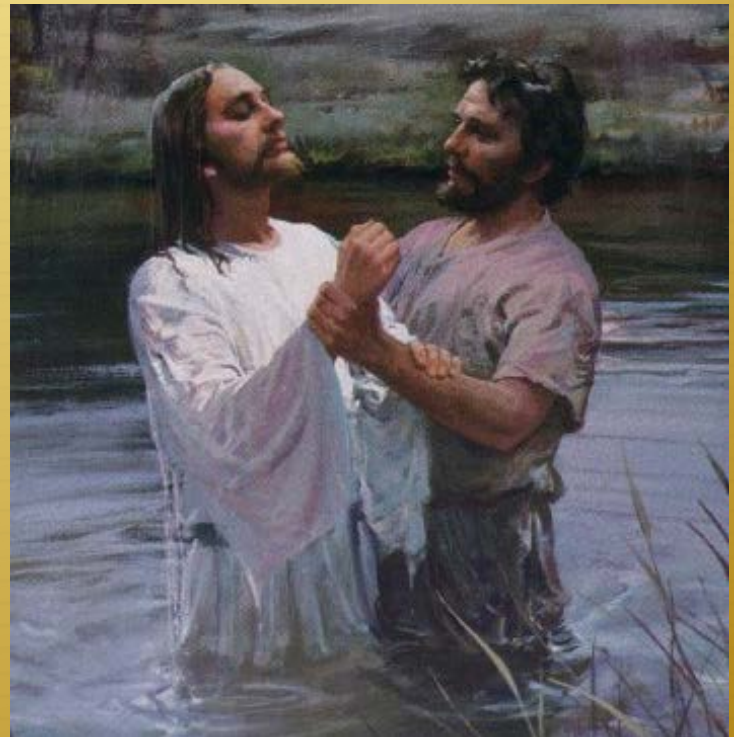
Recap



- ✦ Adam and Eve chose to disobey God
 - ✦ Sin entered the world (Original Sin)
- ✦ We are all born into sin and are disconnected from God
- ✦ Christ came and died to restore Man's relationship with God

What Does it Do?

- ✦ Restores soul's ability to receive God's love/graces
 - ✦ We are new creations and adopted as a Child of God
- ✦ All sins are forgiven: Original, personal, and punishment for sin
- ✦ Given the Holy Spirit
- ✦ The first rite of initiation
 - ✦ Confirmation and the Eucharist follow



Cont...



- ✦ Has nothing to do with the meritorious efforts of the person receiving - purely God's mercy
- ✦ “Immersion in water symbolizes not only death and purification, but also regeneration and renewal”
– CCC1262
- ✦ Temporal consequences still remain
 - ✦ Suffering, illness, death, and concupiscence (the inclination to sin)
 - ✦

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. The Church does not know of any means other than Baptism that assures entry into eternal beatitude.”

–CCC1257

A Deeper Look



✦ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fV8uu9-sYSk>



One Baptism



- ✦ “I confess **one** baptism for the forgiveness of sin”
- ✦ The grace of baptism only occurs once
 - ✦ If a person converts to Catholicism and has been baptized under another denomination, they do not need to be baptized under the Catholic faith only Confirmed



Why was Christ Baptized?

- ✦ *“Christ is baptized, not that he may be sanctified in the waters, but that he himself may sanctify the waters, and by his own purification may purify those streams which he touches... Christ therefore takes the lead in baptism, so that Christian peoples may follow after him with confidence.” – St. Maximus of Turin*
- ✦ It was an example of obedience to God and how Christ lead the way as an example to living a life for God
- ✦ A Theophany of God
 - ✦ Theophany: a manifestation of the fullness of God
 - ✦ The Trinity is introduced by Christ’s baptism



Infant Baptism



- ✦ “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. 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

Infant Baptism Cont.



- ✦ "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: Parent's Responsibility

- ✦ 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

