

October LIFT 2019-20

Level 1-5 Home Assignment

Directions: Work with your child through the take home assignment. It isn't a writing assignment but an opportunity to experience together what we discussed at LIFT. Jot down notes about the things you talk about and email me a summary to dremaley@holyeucharist.org.

Theme: The Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation

- Objectives:**
1. Be able to name the seven sacraments and the sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
 2. Be able to identify holiness and evangelization as the vocation of the Christian life and define what they mean.
 3. Be able to describe the sacrament of Baptism and what it does in our lives.
 4. Be able to describe the sacrament of Confirmation is and does in our lives.
 5. Review the Sign of the Cross.
 5. Define a sacrament: God gives us grace through physical signs and symbols called the Sacraments.

Activities

Liturgical Calendar Connection

Questions to consider: Remind them that the church uses different colors to show what church (liturgical) time of year we are in. What color is associated with Ordinary Time? (green) What is the liturgical time of year we are in? (We are in Ordinary time.) Ordinary usually means "regular" or "plain" but the way that we are using it here means "order" as in the order of counted weeks.

Here is another question...what liturgical season is coming next? (Advent)

Review the Sign of the Cross

We have a prayer that we use to begin and end prayer and to remind us that everything that we do has a beginning and an end in God. It is called the Sign of the Cross.

Introduce or remind them how to do the Sign of the Cross. "In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen" (A way to explain this is that: God is the Father, the Creator. He loves us so much that he sent his Son to us to teach us and be an example to us. The Father and Son sent us the Holy Spirit so that we can continue to move towards God even when we can't see Him. Also, remind them that they will touch their left shoulder first and then the right...just like we read from left to right. Often, even third graders will move across their chest the opposite way. To make it clear, I like to stand at the front of

the room with my back to them and do the Sign of the Cross with a big motion.)

What is an Initiation in General and what is Christian Initiation Specifically?

All this year we are talking about sacraments in the Catholic Church. What is a sacrament? [God gives us grace through physical signs and symbols called the Sacraments.]

What are the 7 sacraments? [Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Marriage and Holy Orders.]

There are 3 Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

What is an initiation?

[To be initiated is to become formally a part of a group or society. In general, initiations may involve taking an oath, passing a challenge, or enduring a trial. Then upon initiation, the person has a common bond with other members and is given a role or mission. The Sacraments of Initiation resembles this pattern. The Christian life begins with baptismal promises, and then through God's grace we are made members of Christ's Body, the Church.]

Conversation to have:

- When were you or a member of your family was made a part of a group? [first day of school, part of a sports team, older siblings or cousins who married, etc.]
- What promises or challenges accompany this transition and what new roles or missions came with it? [first day of school-class rules, mission of learning; sports team-rules of the game, mission is to win]
- Connect this pattern with the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist. What is a sacrament? [visible sign instituted by Christ to give grace] The Sacraments of Initiation are called that because they introduce us to and make us members of the Church, strengthen us for our life's journey and give us our vocation or mission as Christians.
- Note: When God is left out of initiation practices bad things can happen. Like what?

What is Baptism?

[The CCC (Catechism of the Catholic Church) provides a simple explanation for what Jesus does for us in Baptism: "Holy Baptism in the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism, we are freed from sin and reborn as sons (and daughters) of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated in to the church and made sharers in her mission: Baptism in the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word." (CCC 1213) Through Baptism, we participate in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Baptism is necessary for salvation.]

In Baptism, water is pour over our head or we are immersed three times while the priest or deacon says, "I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In our Baptism, we:

- Enter into the Christian life and the Church
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- Gain access to other sacraments
 - Freed from sin
 - Reborn as sons and daughters of God
 - Members of Christ

Baptism Prefigured

Read “A New Beginning” [the story of Noah’s Ark from The Storybook Bible]

- Why does God ask Noah to build an ark?
- After the ark was built and Noah’s family and animals were in the boat, what happened next?
- What was the rainbow a symbol of?
- The ark saved the people and the animals from the life of sin and unhappiness in the world. How does the story of Noah and the ark connect to the sacrament of Baptism? How does God use water in the story just like He uses the waters of Baptism?

Marking Something as Your Own

- How do you know that something is yours?
- What are some steps you’ve taken to make sure that others know that this thing belongs to you?
- How about this now...whom or what do you belong to? [think, parents, families, groups, God, teams] What are outward signs of these memberships? Some signs are temporary and some are permanent.
- God loves each of us and he marks us as His through the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. Confirmation places a permanent seal on our souls! We cannot see it but it’s real. We belong to God forever and He loves us forever.

What is Confirmation?

Read through the essay or summarize “What is Confirmation?” and hit the important points:

- Confirmation is the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Confirmation candidates.
- How does this happen? (A bishop or appointed official will trace the cross in oil on your forehead and say “be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.”)
- The person to be confirmed must be in a state of grace, profess the faith, have the intent to receive the sacrament and be prepared to be a disciple of Christ.

“You Forgive Me”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LO-2fm7IKcU>

Baptism is just the beginning of our life in the Spirit. We are on a journey to God and we will make mistakes but God forgives us when we return to him.

Closing Prayer

Practice the Sign of the Cross and the “Our Father” prayer. There will be a copy of it in the room for all of the kids.
