

The Rite of Baptism

- *Reception of the child, questions for parents and Godparents*
- *Signing of the child by parents and Godparents*
- *Liturgy of the Word*
- *First anointing*
- *Blessing of the water, renewal of baptismal vows*
- *Profession of faith*
- *Baptism*
- *Second anointing*
- *Clothing with white garment, lighting of baptismal candle*
- *Concluding prayers*

Helping your child understand Baptism

Tell your child about the patron saint after whom he or she was named, or about the family member or loved one after whom he or she was named, focusing on the importance of the baptismal name.

Teach your child about the water used in baptism, and that holy water may always be used to bless ourselves and others.

Tell your child who his or her Godparents are and invite them to remain a part of your child faith formation after baptism and as your child grows up

Baptism

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Baptism

What is Baptism ?

What do the symbols of baptism mean?

Helping your child understand the importance of Baptism



Baptism

Why do we baptize ?

For the remission of original sin

As a participation in the resurrection of Jesus.

The recognition that Baptism begins our journey as Christians

To welcome a new member of the faith community

The symbols of Baptism:

The sign of cross; the symbol that identifies us as Christians

The water; a symbol of life and cleansing. Also a reminder of Jesus' own baptism when he was acknowledged as the Son of God

The candle; the symbol of light, and the light of God in our lives, and of our call to be a light to the world

Symbols—continued

Anointing with oils; the **oil of catechumens** reminds that we enter the Church at baptism; the oil of Chrism, a reminder of our status as adopted children of God—**chrism** was used to anoint royalty as well as priests and prophets. Jesus was anointed priest, prophet and king. We are also called to these activities as members of the faith community

The white garment: a sign of purity and new life



Baptism in brief

Baptism is the first of the Sacraments of initiation; the others are Eucharist and Confirmation. Baptism is considered the door to the other sacraments, and is the door by which we ordinarily enter the Church.

Baptism seals the one being baptized with the mark of Christ, and this cannot be removed. This is why a person is only baptized once.

Baptism is also the main source of unity among most Christians.