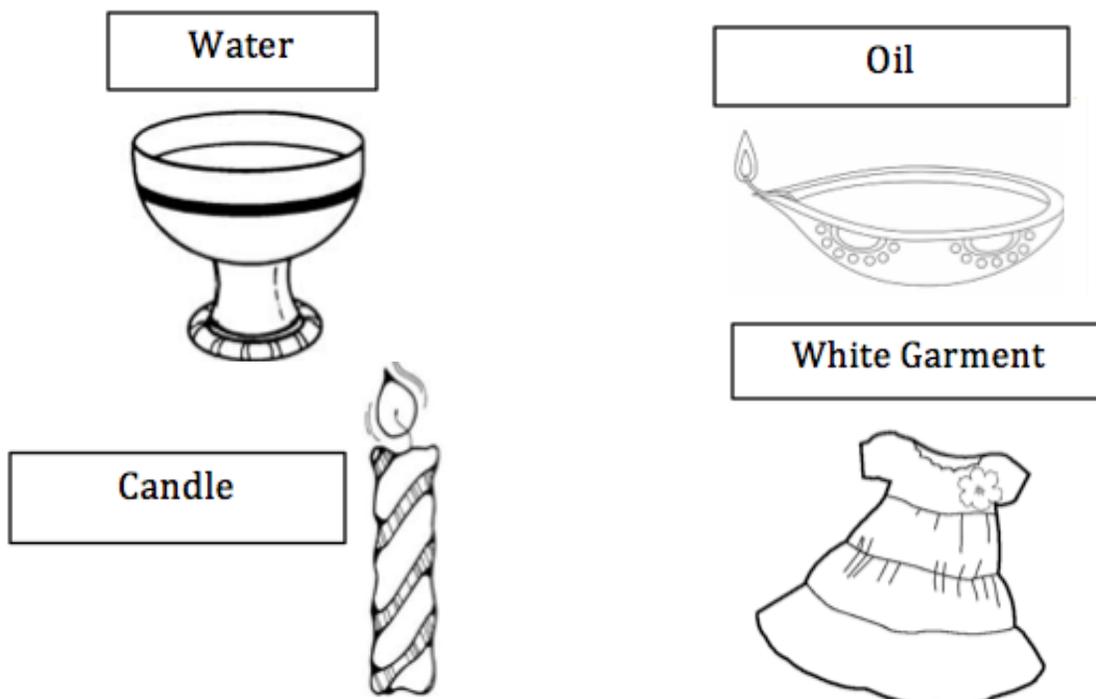


# First Communion Learning Center 1

## Baptism and Eucharist

### Directions

1. Read "The Baptism of Jesus" aloud together. Talk about Jesus' baptism experience. What did you think about when you heard the story? What pictures played in your mind? What did you each like about the story?
2. Talk to your child about their Baptism. How old was he/she? What church was it at? Who was there?
3. Talk about the symbols used during baptism (images below)
  - a. Water: life-giving, cleansing
  - b. Candle: light of Jesus
  - c. Oil: anointed with holy oil to remind us that we belong to Christ (Christ means "anointed one")
  - d. White garment: sign of new life, Christ's life within you
4. Complete the "Baptism of Jesus" puzzle.



# The Baptism of Jesus

After Jesus had been in Jerusalem at the age of twelve, He lived in Nazareth eighteen years. During these years He studied and prayed. In this way He got ready to do the work for which the heavenly Father had sent Him.

When Jesus was about thirty years old, a man named John lived in a desert near the Jordan River. His clothing and food were strange. He wore a coat made of camel's hair, and he ate grasshoppers and wild honey.

God had sent John into the desert. He wanted him to preach there and get the people ready for the coming of the Savior. Large crowds came to hear John. They came from Jerusalem and from Judea and from all the country round about the Jordan River.

John said to the people: "Be sorry for your sins and ask God to forgive you." Many who heard him were sorry for their sins.

One day Jesus came to the place where John was preaching and baptizing. He asked John to baptize him also. At first John did not want to baptize Jesus. But Jesus said: "Let it be so now, for it is God's will."

Then Jesus stepped into the river, and John baptized Him.

After Jesus had been baptized, He came out of the water and prayed. While He was praying, a wonderful thing happened. The sky opened, and the Holy Spirit came down as a dove and settled on Jesus.

And a voice from heaven said: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

The heavenly Father was pleased with Jesus because He was willing to obey Him in all things.



# I Belong to the Catholic Church

The Catholic Church is a community of people who follows Jesus Christ. Jesus is God's Son, who became one of us to show us God's love. Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah for whom the people of Israel waited.

We become members of our Church by receiving three Sacraments of Initiation. These sacraments are **Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.**

We receive grace in these sacraments. Grace means gift.

We receive the gift of sharing God's life and love in these sacraments.



At Baptism parents ask members of the Church welcome their child. They want their child to grow up as a follower of Jesus.

A priest or deacon pours water over the baby's head and says

"\_\_\_\_\_, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

Parents promise to teach their children all that Christians believe. In Baptism we become children of God. We share the life of God- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



# The Baptism of Jesus

When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. Luke 3:21 (NIV)

Words are taken from Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 (NIV).



L P Q S P I R I T O P P W G M  
U B S O M N L L F E R O A V C  
M U U L E K N L J L A U T M K  
E Z Z V Y O E U E V Y S E P U  
U L A Z O R G A S Q I P R B X  
C E E T I R K P U W N V W M M  
H Y R F U L W C S L G L B J N  
S J Y Z D Q H D U Q V R X I F  
H T O K U X J F O L A O E W R  
A O M H O Y R H K Q H T I Z J  
D A L B N E P V Z Q U U T C M  
B O Z Y W I M C H R I S T F E  
K V V O A S X S P E O P L E Q  
K E P E X D O P E N E D P V S  
B A P T I Z E U Z V F V L D S

Spirit opened people	John Jesus praying	voice dove heaven	Christ powerful Holy	fire water baptize
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