

Grade 7 - Lesson 13

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

Proclamation:

In Baptism, our sins are washed away and grace is poured into our souls. We receive an indelible seal that identifies our souls as united to Christ.



Catechetical Points

- In the Sacrament of Baptism, the life of grace is restored in us.
- In Baptism, we make a covenant with God to live according to Christ's teachings.

Materials

- Blank paper
- YouTube (Please bring your own laptop or tablet)
 - Wi-Fi: StMichaelGuest
 - Password: 6084375348
 - Sacraments 101: Baptism by BustedHalo
 - <https://youtu.be/05YB2jdHLsY>

[10 min] **Silent Prayer**

- Bring the class into church for a few minutes of silent prayer.

[10 min] **What is Baptism?**

- When God first created our world, humans lived in perfect friendship with God. There was no suffering, disease, or death. But when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, sin entered the world, and the gates of heaven were closed to humanity.
- The Sacrament of Baptism restores our friendship with God, and is necessary for our salvation.
- Read **Luke 15:11-32** about the Prodigal Son.
 - **Who does the father represent?** *God.*
 - **Who does the younger son represent?** *Those who have distanced themselves from God.*
- Read the first section on **page 92** (page 160 in the teacher's manual).
- God welcomes all of us back to him with open arms. Jesus won grace for everyone, but we must choose to receive it. The first step to restoring our friendship with God is through baptism.
- Read **Jesus Gave Us Baptism** on **page 93**.
- [Optional] **How did Jesus give us the other Sacraments?**
 - **Eucharist:** At the Last Supper: "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." Matthew 26:26-28
 - **Confirmation:** At Pentecost: "When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy

Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.” Acts 2:1-4

- **Confession:** “He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” John 20:22-23
- **Matrimony:** “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” Matthew 19:5-6. *Marriage existed long before the time of Jesus, but he established marriage as a Sacrament in this Scripture passage.*
- **Holy Orders:** “They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.” Acts 6:6
- **Anointing of the Sick:** “Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.” James 5:14

[10 min] **Effects of Baptism**

- **Effects of Baptism:**
 - Original Sin and all personal sin is washed away.
 - Grace is infused in the soul.
 - The soul is filled with Faith, Hope, and Love.
 - We receive the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.
 - We become adopted children of God and members of the Church.
 - An indelible seal is placed on the soul. This is an invisible mark that shows that we are united to Christ, and it can never be removed, even if we commit a mortal sin.
- Have the students draw a before and after picture on blank paper to show the effects of baptism on the soul.

[5 min] **Baptism of Desire**

- Read the section on Baptism of Desire and of Blood on page 94.
- **What are the three ways to be baptized?** The ordinary Sacrament received from a priest, desiring to be baptized when there is no one available to give the Sacrament, and dying for the faith.
- **What saints do you know who died as a martyr?** *St. Stephen, St. Andrew, St. Peter, St. Joan of Arc, etc.*

[10 min] **Baptism 101**

- Watch **Sacraments 101: Baptism** by BustedHalo
 - <https://youtu.be/05YB2jdHLsY>
- **Why does the Catholic Church baptize infants instead of waiting until they are old enough to understand the faith?** *Baptism is an initiation into the faith community, and it frees us from sin.*
- **Who can be baptized?** *Anyone, except those who have already been baptized.*
- **What are the necessary materials needed for a baptism?** *Water, oil, a candle, a white garment, a priest or deacon, parents, godparents, and the baby.*
- **Besides a priest or deacon, who can baptize in case of an emergency?** *Anyone, even if they are not Christian! All that is needed is regular water (not necessarily holy water), and the words, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."*
- **What is RCIA?** *The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults -- when non-Catholic adults enter the Catholic Church.*

[10 min] **The Use of Water**

- Read the section on the Use of Water on page 97.
- **How is water significant in the Old Testament?**
 - God moved over the waters in the creation story.

- Noah and his family were saved by passing through the waters of the flood.
- God parted the waters of the Red Sea to lead the Jews to freedom.
- The Jews crossed the waters of the Jordan river to enter into the Promised Land.
- **Who baptizes others in the New Testament?** *John the Baptist.*
- **Did John's baptism take away sins?** *No, it was only a symbol. However, when John baptized Jesus, Christ changed the water and gave it the power to remove sins whenever anyone was baptized since then.*

[10 min] **The Rite of Baptism**

- Read the section on the Rite of Baptism on pages 97-99.
- **What is a rite?** *A religious ceremony.*
- **What is an exorcism?** *A prayer said by a priest to destroy the influence of the devil over a soul.*
- **Why is there a minor exorcism prayer during baptism?** *Original Sin put all of us under the influence of the devil. The prayer of exorcism takes Original Sin away from the soul, which means that the gates of heaven are now open to us. However, even though we have been freed from Original Sin, its effects are still in us, which is why each of us is still drawn to sinful behavior (i.e. selfishness). We need God's grace (particularly from the Sacraments) to overcome the tendency to sin.*
- **What is sacred chrism and what is its purpose?** *Oil consecrated by the Bishop, which is used to show that every Christian is called to follow Jesus as priest, prophet, and king.*

[5 min] **Living Our Baptismal Commitment**

- Read the rest of page 99.
- **What is a vow?** *A solemn promise to God.*

- **How can we keep our promise to give up sin and live according to the teachings of Christ?** *Pray regularly, receive the Sacraments often, and study the Catholic faith.*

[5 min] **Closing Prayer**

- Pray the **Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

V. Do you reject Satan?

R. I do.

V. And all his works?

R. I do.

V. And all his empty promises?

R. I do.

V. Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth?

R. I do.

V. Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

R. I do.

V. Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

R. I do.

V. God, the all-powerful Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and forgiven all our sins. May he also keep us faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ for ever and ever.

R. Amen.