

# Week 25

Paragraphs 1234–1289



# THE CATECHISM IN A YEAR

WITH FR. MIKE SCHMITZ

*f* faith.<sup>82</sup> By “analogy of faith” we mean the

## How We Worship PART TWO: THE CELEBRATION OF THE CHRISTIAN MYSTERY

### WHAT DOES BAPTISM DO?

**B**aptism is not just a custom. It changes our fallen nature and makes us God’s adopted sons and daughters. God has made Baptism necessary for salvation. In his desire for all to know him and be saved through Baptism, God calls us to share the mission. If we keep someone from Baptism, we withhold a crucial gift. The graces of Confession, the Eucharist, and Confirmation empower us for sharing Christ’s mission with the world.

#### Keep in Mind

- Baptism is “the sacrament of faith” necessary to “enter the kingdom of God” (CCC 1236; John 3:5).
- We are born under dominion of sin. Baptism changes our human nature in order for us to become sons and daughters of God.
- Water is essential in Baptism because submersion into water represents both dying and washing.
- Baptism includes a rite of exorcism that explicitly renounces Satan and his dominion.
- Any unbaptized person of any age can receive God’s free grace in Baptism.
- Bishops, priests, and deacons ordinarily administer Baptism, but “in case of necessity,” anyone can baptize using water and the words of Baptism in the name of the Holy Trinity (CCC 1256).
- “God has bound salvation to the sacrament of Baptism, but he himself is not bound by his sacraments” (CCC 1257).
- God makes a way for every person to have a chance to say “yes” to him.
- Baptism heals Original Sin in our souls, but we still suffer the consequences of sin, including pain, sickness, death, and concupiscence (attraction to sin).



The sacrament  
of Baptism

#### Dive Deeper

Infant baptism reveals the completely free gift of God’s saving grace (see CCC 1250).

Do you know your baptism birthday? Reflect upon the significance of your baptism and renew your baptismal promises.

- Everyone baptized is a temple of the Holy Spirit called to spread God’s Word.
- Baptized Catholics have the right to be fed by Scripture and the sacraments. Priests must administer Confession if asked.
- Baptized Catholics are obliged to share the Faith and the Good News.
- No sin can undo the “indelible spiritual mark” of Baptism (CCC 1272).
- Confession and the Eucharist, two sacraments we frequently receive, reveal that God continuously seeks and invites us to participate in his life.
- Baptized Catholics share Jesus’ priesthood, so at Mass we participate with him in the sacrifice of the Eucharist.
- Receiving “Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace” (CCC 1285).
- Confirmation unites a baptized person more completely to the Church.
- Confirmation mirrors Pentecost, when the apostles received the Holy Spirit to carry out Jesus’ mission.
- The Holy Spirit empowers us “to spread and defend the faith by word and action ... to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross” (CCC 1303).

Use the space below to reflect on this week's content.

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### Take It to Prayer

God Our Father, thank you for the gift of Baptism and making us into your children. Thank you for making us temples of your Holy Spirit. Please give us a fire of love, faith, and hope to rekindle what you placed in our hearts at Baptism. We pray through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.



The best place to listen along is the Ascension app. Scan the QR code to get exclusive bonus content and transcripts for every episode.

*The Catechism in a Year* is a daily podcast produced by Ascension and hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz. It helps us understand what it means to be Catholic by reading the entire *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and allowing those truths to shape our lives. This bulletin was adapted from the books that complement the podcast: *The Catechism in a Year Companion* by Petroc Willey, Fr. Mike Schmitz, and Matthew Doeing.