Faith on Fire

Family Guide

Week of Jan. 2, 2022

Baptism of the Lord

(Weekly dated Jan. 9)

Opening Prayer

+Holy God,
We thank you for the gift of our Baptism. Help us to keep the light of Jesus shining in our lives so that others may be drawn to your son, Jesus.
Thank you for...
We are sorry for. . . and we ask for your help with . . .
In Jesus' name we pray,
Amen +

Jesus is Born for All People -
Luke 3:15-16, 21-22
(Overview for Adult Leader)

In Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist tells people that someone greater than he is coming. Jesus comes to John for baptism. When Jesus is baptized, the heavens open, the Holy Spirit descends upon him as a dove, and a voice proclaims, "You are my beloved Son." God is revealed to us as Trinity, Three Persons in One God.

QUICK CONNECT (10 min)

Begin by each child completing the front cover of *their* Gospel Weekly (3 min)

Catholic Faith Word: A great way to start your Scripture time together is to do hangman with the Catholic Faith Word. Choose one word if you have multiple children or if time permits do multiple words!

NOTE: Families with ONLY PROMISE children, please go HERE for your Parent Teaching Guide which includes opening story, Gospel. & questions. You many look at this Family Guide for extra resources.

DO ALL TOGETHER - READ A OPENING STORY & Do the Questions This is a quick opportunity for everyone to listen to ONE story which will prepare them for the Gospel. (If you have students in different levels, pick just one story.) Promise found at RED link above.

Short on time? Skip the story & pick from the discussion starter questions below to make a quick connection with family members & move on to the Gospel Reading.

Questions: Pick 1 or 2 that apply to your child(ren)

- *What are your favorite parts of the Christmas story? Why?*
- *What is the best gift you have ever received?*
- *What is the best gift you have ever given someone? Why? What kind of gift can you offer Jesus?*
- *The angels were bearers of good news (the message of God). Where do you get messages of God from?*

Discover the Gospel TOGETHER - 20 min

(Overview for Adult Leader) **Jesus' public life begins with His baptism by John in the Jordan" (CCC, 535). "The descent of the Spirit on Jesus at his baptism was the sign that this was the one to come, the Messiah, the Son of God" (CCC, 1286). "the baptism of Jesus is on his part the acceptance and inauguration of his mission as God's suffering Servant" (CCC, 536). "Through baptism the Christian is sacramentally assimilated to Jesus, who is His own baptism anticipates His death and resurrection? (CCC, 537). "Baptism makes us members of the Body of Christ" (CCC, 1267).**

Read the Gospel (in Bible) OR read/act out the Gospel Play from ONE of the printed Pflaum Weeklies - Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

TOGETHER do the Gospel Reflection Questions found in *your child's Weekly* (in yellow boxes), except Promise & most explained below.

What special three persons were at Jesus' Baptism*(God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.*
Who is the voice from heaven? *God the Father*
What message does the voice from Heaven give Jesus? *He tells Jesus that he is God's Son and that God is please with him. God says that Jesus' example is good and pleasing to God.*
What will Jesus do now? *Jesus will begin his public ministry. Jesus will start sharing the Good News of God's love with others, call the Apostles to join him, start teaching and healing.*
What does the dove represent? *It is a sign that the Holy Spirit will be with Him. The dove symbolizes the presence of the Holy Spirit.*
Who will give Jesus strength to do his work? The Holy Spirit will strengthen Jesus and help him do His work.
What gives Christians the strength to do the work of justice? *Belief in God, example of Jesus, courage of the Holy Spirit, a true sense of justice, and the example of others.*
How does John the Baptist help Jesus begin his work? *John prepares people for Jesus' coming; he tells them that Jesus will baptize in the Holy Spirit and in fire; John baptizes Jesus.*
Why does Jesus want to be baptized by John? *Jesus wanted to show the people that he, too, was making the choice to be baptized.*
Spend some time sharing your memories of your child(ren)'s Baptism. Get out pictures and perhaps the gown and for sure find their Baptismal candle!

Have each child work on ***their*** pages in What the Church Believes & Teaches (WCBT)
Each child will work individually in their book as they may not be covering the same content.

Promise students will do Baptism is a Sacrament (p 13) Your Baptism (14)
Good News students will do Creed: I believe..in the Holy Spirit .. (p 12) Baptism (21)
Venture students will do What happens at Baptism? (p 19-20)
Visions students will do The Sacraments of Christian Initiation (p 22-23)

Live the Gospel

Go Live It!! (10 min)

Take time over this week to pray the Baptismal prayer over each of your children. (Blue paper found in your packet)

Don't forget to be sharing your highs & lows for the day; what you're thankful for AND **our latest question: What are you sorry for today?**

Closing Prayer:

Use the prayer found in your Gospel Weekly to close your time together. It can be found in the Family Corner (Promise/Good news) or With My Family & Friends section (Venture/Visions).

Show us what you've learned or how you've lived your faith this week !

Together, let's take one step closer to God!

Find the Assignment Form HERE.

Due Next Sunday

Car Rides Review Questions!

Can you tell me what the Gospel was about?
Why do you think this story is in the Bible?
What did we learn from the Gospel?

To receive weekly tips from Pflaum Weekly click here

Learn about the Eucharist

The sacraments of Christian initiation constitute a unity because 'they establish the foundations of Christian life. The faithful born anew by Baptism are strengthened by Confirmation and are then nourished by the Eucharist.' –Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, 251"

Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist are called the Sacraments of Initiation because, through them, a person is brought into membership in the Catholic Church. Although most young people celebrate First Eucharist before Confirmation, the Eucharist is really the fullness of initiation. Through it, we become fully part of the Body of Christ. Confirmation builds on Baptism, and the Eucharist completes them both. The three are a unity. When adults become Catholic, they celebrate all three sacraments in one Mass—Baptism first, then Confirmation followed by the Eucharist. These sacraments make us full members of the Church. They are the foundation on which we build and grow our spiritual lives.

Saint of the Week -

- St. Andre Bessette

Younger Students

- Baptism of the Lord (2 min)
- Bible Bag Story (8 min)

Older Students

- **Baptism** (8 min) Excellent overview!

Adults

- Why we are Confirmed (6 min)