

LIFT Gathering 1: Baptism



In Baptism, we are connected to a communion/community of saints—our community includes our living faith community and those who have walked faithfully before us.

In Baptism our name is proclaimed to the community and our beauty as God's children is celebrated.

In Baptism we are marked with the sign of the cross—we are claimed, loved, marked by God as God's own—marked and claimed to love as God loves.

In Baptism, through the profession of faith we say no to sin and yes to life and faith in Jesus.

In Baptism, we are immersed into water as a sign of our dying with Christ, and then rising out of the water into new life with Christ. Christ becomes our source of living water, and we are called to become living water for a thirsty world. Through the waters of Baptism we are cleansed of our sins and receive the grace of the Holy Spirit.

In Baptism, oil is a sign of being anointed by the Holy Spirit, our spiritual source of strength, protection, and healing.

In Baptism, the candle lit from the Easter (Paschal) candle and given to the newly baptized symbolizes that Christ has enlightened the baptized person, and in Christ those who are baptized become the "light of the world".

In Baptism, the newly baptized are given a white garment, which symbolizes that the person baptized has "put on Christ." The garment is white, reflecting the purity of being cleansed of sin.



1131 "The sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us. The visible rites by which the sacraments are celebrated signify and make present the graces proper to each sacrament. They bear fruit in those who receive them with the required dispositions." *Catechism of the Catholic Church*



I baptize you in the name
of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit

God gifts grace in abundance! We are a SACRAMENTAL people!

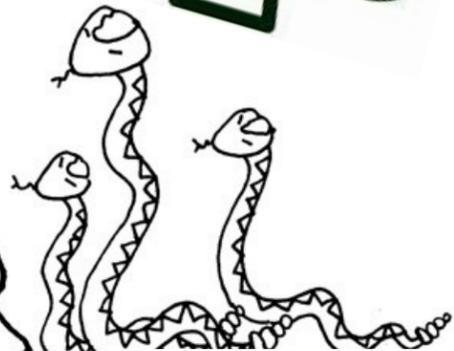
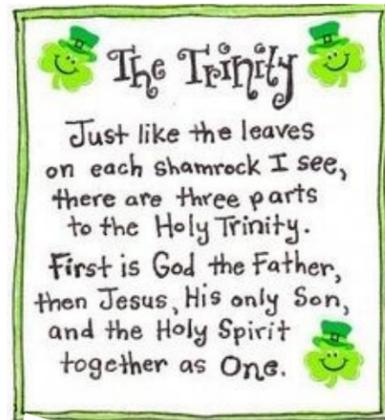
2015-2016 LIFT Dates

- Confirmation
Monday, October 12
Sunday, October 18
- Eucharist
Monday, November 9
Sunday, November 15
- Reconciliation
Monday, January 4
Sunday, January 10
- Anointing of the Sick
Monday, February 1
Sunday, February 7
- Holy Marriage
Monday, March 7
Sunday, March 13
- Holy Orders
Monday, April 4
Sunday, April 10
- Saturday, May 21

Saint Spotlight: St. Patrick

The saints are people who imitated Jesus in their lives in many different ways. St. Patrick lived the gospel and did as Jesus commanded: to proclaim the gospel to others. St. Patrick traveled to Ireland and shared his Catholic faith with the Irish people. He went all over Ireland talking about God, baptizing the people, and building churches. St. Patrick taught the Irish people about the Trinity and led them to faith in God who is Father, Son, and Spirit.

Saint Patrick practiced the baptismal virtue of courage and he was a person of prayer. He heard God's call in his life. He is an example for all of us living the gospel. We too are called to share the good news of Jesus Christ with others.



- 1. True
- 2. False
- 3. True
- 4. True
- 5. True
- 6. True

Corporal Work of Mercy:

To give drink to the thirsty

Water is essential for all life: cooking, cleaning, play and hydration! Clean water is a limited resource and too many around the globe struggle for it. When Jesus encountered the woman at the well in John 4: 5-42, water offered an opening for welcome and hospitality, for relationship and friendship. Her need for water was both physical and spiritual. Jesus offered her something she hadn't heard of before: "living water."

Through the waters of Baptism we experience spiritual rebirth and welcome into a community where our spiritual and physical needs can be met as we grow in friendship with Jesus and with one another.



How can you carry out this work of mercy?

What good will come from your act of mercy?

Did you know...?

The spiritual and corporal works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbor in his spiritual and bodily necessities. **The corporal works of mercy consist especially in feeding the hungry sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned and burying the dead.** Among all these, giving alms (money) to the poor is one of the chief witnesses to fraternal charity (brotherly love); it is also a work of justice pleasing to God. Everyone is obliged to perform the works of mercy, according to his own ability and the need of his neighbor. *It is important to remember that ordinary deeds done every day to relieve the corporal or spiritual needs of others are true works of mercy, if done in the name of Christ.*

Each month we'll connect a different work of mercy—check your placemat monthly!

TRUE OR

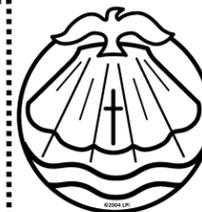
- 1. True or False: Does Baptism take away all sins?
- 2. True or False: Only babies can be baptized.
- 3. True or False: In case of an emergency a lay person can use ordinary water and pour it on the forehead of the person who is being baptized.
- 4. True or False: In case of necessity, Baptism may be given by anyone.
- 5. True or False: Baptism removes from the soul every sin.
- 6. True or False: When you were born you had original sin.

Sacrament Connection

Do you know the seven sacraments? *Sacrament* is the name for the seven special signs of God's presence in our lives. Sacraments are rooted in the life and ministry of Jesus and help us to recognize God in our everyday actions.

To describe each sacrament, connect the sacrament in column A with a phrase in column B and a phrase in column C. One has been done for you.

A	B	C
Baptism	anointing the forehead and hands	celebrates forgiveness
Confirmation	exchange of vows	makes one a child of God
Eucharist	pouring water	commissions service
Penance Reconciliation	laying on of hands	strengthens and seals one's Baptism
Anointing of the Sick	breaking bread	celebrates Jesus' life, death, resurrection
Holy Orders	prayer of absolution	unites couple in commitment of love
Matrimony	"Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit"	strengthens and comforts in times of sickness



Did you know?

Trivia Night returns for Gathering 7 for middle school, high school and adults. Keep your placemat. If you have the placemats from each gathering you have ALL the answers for trivia night!

"Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit (*vitae spiritualis ianua*), and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission: "Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word." 1213 *Catechism of the Catholic Church*