

Good News

Growing-Up Moments

Use the words in the box to finish the sentences.
Have you had these growing-up moments?

sing Reconciliation bike birthday baby Communion help Baptism

I was welcomed into God's family through

the Sacrament of _____ 4 _____.

I like to _____ 2 _____ at our parish dinner.

I celebrate my _____ 3 _____ with a cake and ice cream.

I say I am sorry for my sins in the Sacrament of

_____ 1 _____ 6 _____.

I don't have training wheels on my _____ 7 _____ anymore.

You have to help when a new _____ 8 _____ joins your family.

I receive Jesus' Body and Blood in Holy _____ 9 _____.

I _____ 5 _____ in the children's choir at our church.



Find the numbered letters above
to complete this sentence.

I am growing as a

_____ 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____.



Oscar's Good News



"I have good news," Oscar told his class. "My baby sister, Olivia, is going to be baptized this Sunday. I get to stand by the baptismal font. Did I say that right, Mrs. Martin?"



"We remember our Baptism every time we go into and come out of church," said Mrs. Martin. "Can anyone think of what we do?"

"You were close, Oscar. It's the bap-tis-mal font," said Mrs. Martin.

"I know," said Samuel. "We dip our fingers in holy water and make the Sign of the Cross."

"I know what that is," said Samuel. "I saw my baby cousin get baptized. She cried when the priest poured water over her head."

"Baptism has lots of symbols," said Mrs. Martin, "the Sign of the Cross, water, oil, special words, a white garment, and a candle."

"I was a baby when I was baptized too," said Aubrey. "My parents have pictures and a candle. We remember my Baptism day every year with a cake."

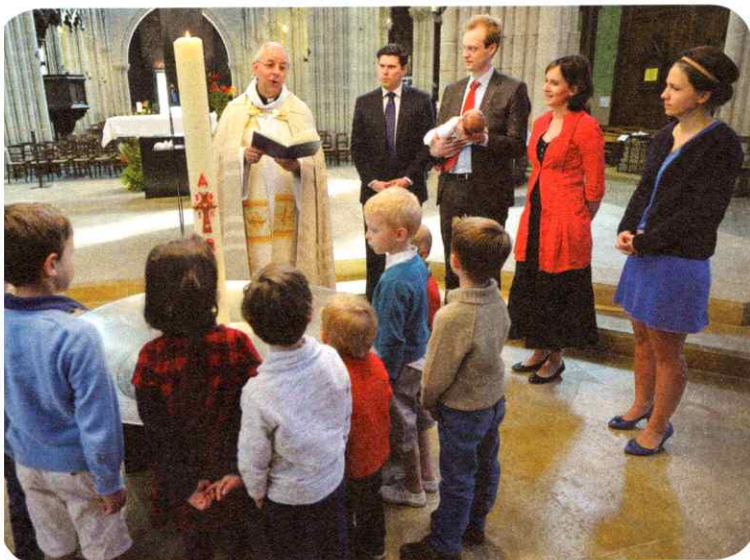
"I'm going to make sure my family sits by the baptismal font at Mass on Sunday. I want to see Oscar's sister get baptized," said Aubrey.

"That's neat," said Maria. "Maybe my family will do that too."

"Me too!" said several other children.



"My sister's Baptism is good news for everybody!" said Oscar.



KNOW

- 1 How is Olivia's Baptism good news for Olivia and her family?
- 2 How is Olivia's Baptism good news for the whole parish?

Activity

Symbols of Baptism

Draw a line from the symbol of Baptism to the words of Baptism that explain its meaning.

"I trace the cross on your forehead, and invite your parents (and godparents) to do the same."

"(Name), I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

"[God the Father] now anoints you with the chrism of salvation."

"You have become a new creation and have clothed yourself in Christ."

"Walk always as a child of the light."



Lighted candle



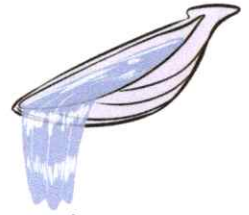
Oil



Sign of the Cross



White garment



Water and words



SUNDAY GOSPEL

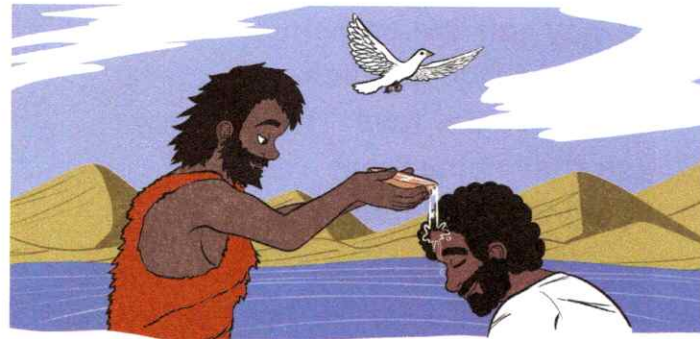
Baptism of the Lord Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

John Baptizes Jesus

Narrator: Many people in Israel thought John the Baptist might be the Messiah. John said to them:

John: I baptize you with water. One more powerful than I am is coming. I am not worthy to untie his sandals. He will baptize you with the **Holy Spirit** and fire.

Narrator: After John had baptized all the people, Jesus came to be baptized too. Jesus was praying after his



baptism when Heaven opened up and the Holy Spirit came down like a dove. A voice came from Heaven, saying:

Voice: You are my beloved Son. I am very pleased with you.



KNOW

- 1 What message does the voice from Heaven give Jesus?
- 2 What will Jesus do now?
- 3 What will strengthen Jesus to do his work?



Catholic Faith Word

Holy Spirit The Third Person of the Blessed Trinity. *Spirit* is another word for "life" and "breath."



The Blessed Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—is present at Jesus’ baptism. God the Father blesses Jesus and calls him his beloved Son. The Holy Spirit appears in the form of a dove. The Holy Spirit will help Jesus in the work he is beginning.

Family Corner

Question of the Week



What difference does being baptized make in the choices you make?

Family Prayer



Thank you, Lord, for making us members of your family through Baptism.

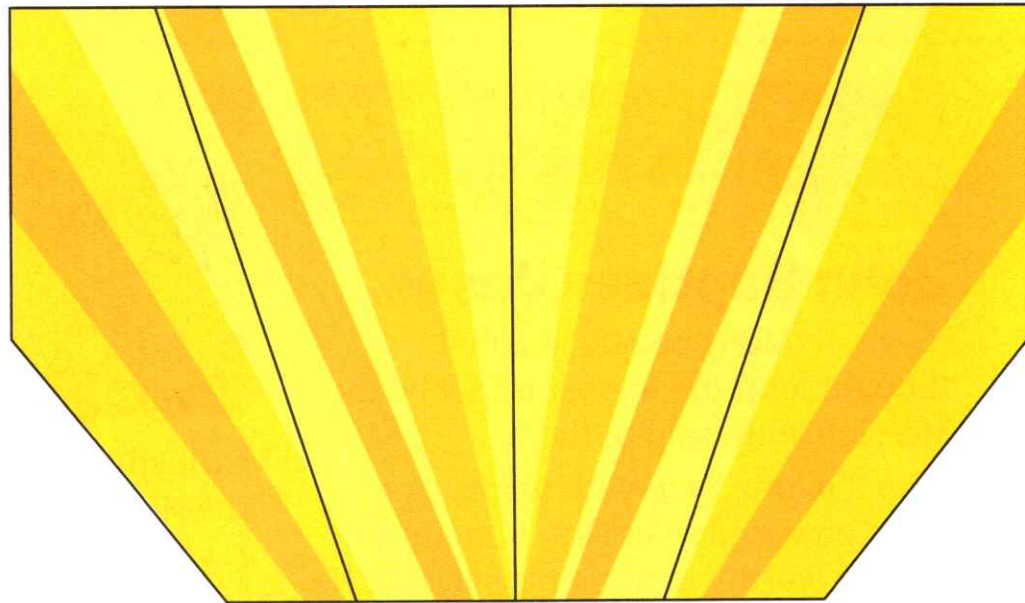


Go to page 12 of your Catechism handbook to learn more about the Holy Spirit.

Activity

God’s Beloved Child

Cut out the cloud and sun rays. Write a way you live as a child of God on each ray. Glue the rays so they shine from behind the cloud.



**“You are my beloved child.
I am very pleased with you.”**

Luke 3:22