



A Year with the Catechism

(In preparation for next week.)

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

What benefits does Baptism give? It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Which are these words and promises of God? Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” (Mk. 16:16)

Bible Passages

One Lord, one faith, one baptism. [Ephesians 4:5]

Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away.

[Acts 22:16]

He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying. [Titus 3:5-8]

You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. [Galatians 3:26-27]

Weekly Catechism Reading

Matthew 3:13-17

p. 285-286 – Central Thought

p. 286-287 – Part 297-299

p. 287 – Part 300-302

p. 288 – Part 303

p. 290 – Part 304-305

p. 290-291 – Part 307-End



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Devotion

Bible Readings

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Devotion

“You are going to get what you deserve!” We like the Law. Usually the Law for others, but we like simple order and structure. If you do this, then that will happen.

The problem is when God’s Law is being spoken against us, we feel the guilt, if we are really Christian. We are by nature sinful and unclean. We deserve punishment and to be disinherited as God’s children.

In Baptism, God washes us clean and makes us whole. He cleanses us and makes us perfect and holy. He takes our stinking, staining, smelly sin and washes it away with His perfect robe of righteousness.

Salvation comes to us through the waters of Holy Baptism, and we in faith, lead godly lives according to that grace He has given for you.

Prayer

Lord God, our heavenly Father, You have washed us and made us clean in the waters of Holy Baptism. Guard and protect our lives that we may reflect that salvation to the lives of others, share with them the good news of Your Holy Gospel, and bring them to where You have promised to be for us: in Your Word and in Your Sacraments. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.