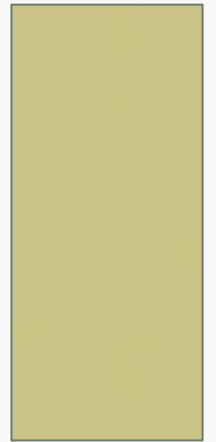


FAMILY FAITH FORMATION – 2021/2022

SAINT PATRICK'S & SAINT LUKE'S



THE PURPOSE OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

- To help you learn more about God so that you can deepen your own personal relationship with Him.
- To give you the confidence to speak about your Catholic faith with others.
- To help you as you guide your children in their own personal relationship with God.
- To provide you with an opportunity to spend more time with your immediate family and also with our parish family.
- To provide you with a short time for prayer and an opportunity to use the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

THE PURPOSE OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

- The Catechism of the Catholic Church is divided into 4 sections. They are:
 - The Creed – What we believe
 - The Sacraments – How we are sanctified
 - The Commandments – How we are to live
 - Prayer – How we relate and interact with God
- This year we will be studying the Sacraments

BAPTISM

- Baptism is one of the three Sacraments of Initiation and the first of the Sacraments to be received.
- The Sacraments of Initiation are the foundations for the Christian life.
- We are reborn in Baptism, strengthened in Confirmation and nourished by the Eucharist.

BAPTISM

- The word “Baptism” is derived from a Greek word which means to wash.
- Here it is the Greek word: βαπτίδζειν.
- The word always has reference to water.

BAPTISM

- There are events in the Old Testament that are symbols of baptism.
- These events have a technical name. They are called “types.”
- In these types of baptism, people are saved by water. These include Noah and the ark, the crossing of the Red Sea, and the Israelites crossing the Jordan River into the promised land.

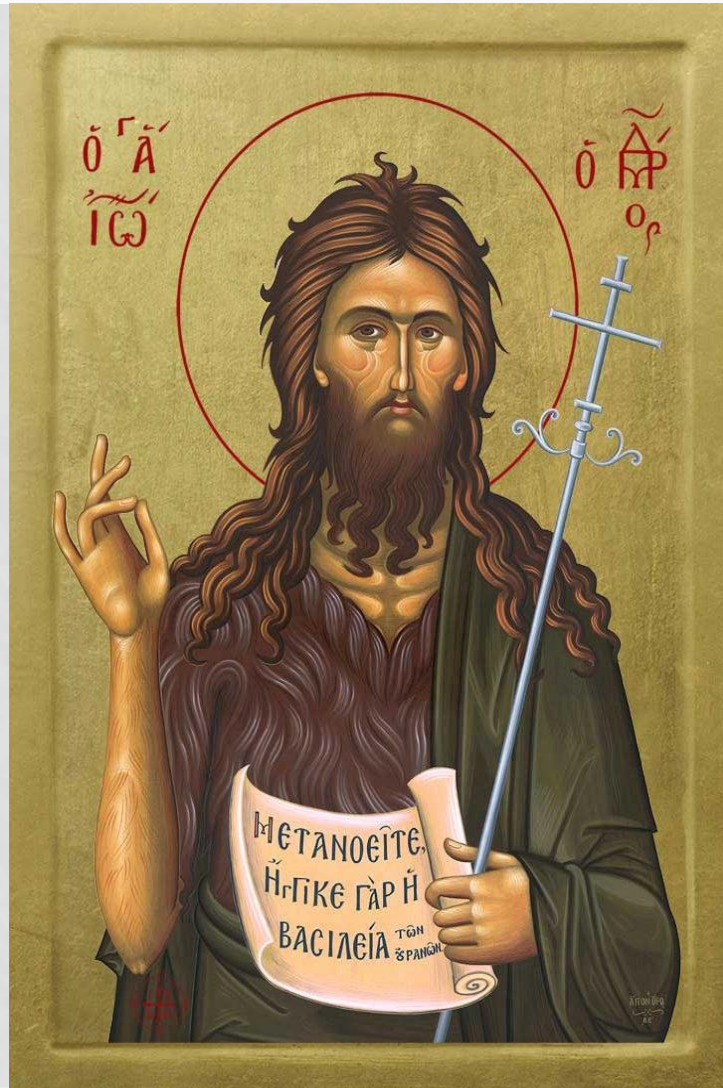
BAPTISM



BAPTISM

- A more explicit reference to Baptism can be seen in the ministry of Saint John the Baptist.
- He called on the people to repent for their sins. Those who heard him were moved to sorrow for their sins, confessed them and were then washed/baptized in the Jordan River.

BAPTISM



BAPTISM

- Note that Saint John's baptism symbolized the desire to be reconciled with God and to be forgiven, but it did not take away sins.
- As such, Saint John's baptism, while it prefigured the Baptism established by our Lord, was not a Sacrament.

BAPTISM

- Jesus Himself was baptized by Saint John (see Mt 3 for example).
- Because Jesus was God and therefore sinless, He did not need baptism.
- However, our Lord submitted to Baptism to serve as an example for us to follow.

BAPTISM

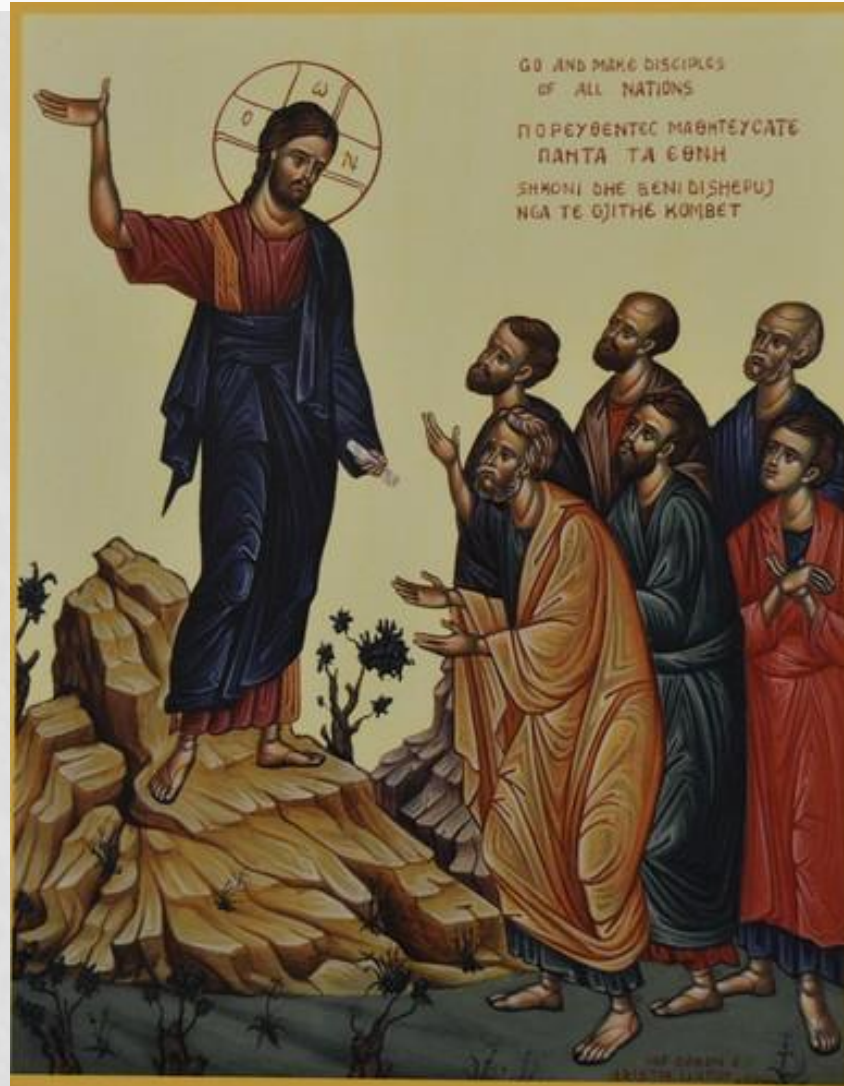
- Baptism is necessary for salvation. Jesus said “Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God (Jn 3:5).”
- From our conception, Original Sin has left human nature wounded and without sanctifying grace.
- Without this sanctifying grace (the participation in God’s life), we are unable to live in God’s presence.

BAPTISM

- Baptism restores us to the state God intended for us from the beginning.
- Through baptism:
 - We are healed from sin (both original and actual).
 - We become children of God.
 - We receive the supernatural virtue of faith.
 - We gain membership in the Church.
 - We are marked with an indelible mark.

BAPTISM

- Jesus commanded His Apostles to go and teach all nations and to baptize those who believed (Mk 16:15).
- Through baptism they would be saved.
- In the Acts of the Apostles, we see that the first thing those who believed did was to be baptized.



BAPTISM

- The matter of Baptism (the “stuff” that is used) is water which is poured over the one being baptized.
- The form (the words that are used) is “I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

BAPTISM

- There are additional symbols used as part of the rite of Baptism. These include:
 - Anointing with the Oil of Catechumens which symbolizes healing from sin and the strength received to lead a Christian life.
 - Anointing with Holy Chrism which symbolizes the incorporation into membership in the Church.
 - Clothing with a white garment which symbolizes the purifying effects of baptism.
 - The reception of a baptismal candle (lit from the Easter candle) which reminds us of Baptism's links to the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

BAPTISM



BAPTISM

- The bishop, priest or deacon are the ordinary ministers of baptism.
- In the case of an *emergency*, anyone can baptize.
- When this happens, the pastor should be notified as soon as possible so that the baptism can be recorded.

BAPTISM

- Godparents are an important part of Baptism. They will assist the child in living the Catholic faith. They also promise to take on that responsibility in the event the parents are no longer able to do so.
- There are three conditions for godparents:
 - They must be 16 or over.
 - They must be practicing Catholics.
 - They must be confirmed in the Catholic faith.

BAPTISM

- While two godparents are preferred, one is sufficient. If there are two, one must be a man and the other a woman (just as a child has one father and one mother).
- A non-Catholic can serve as a witness but not as an official godparent.

BAPTISM

- Some other points:
 - Parents are urged to give their children Christian names. This establishes a spiritual bond with them and the saint they are named after. They then have a patron saint in heaven who will take a special interest in them.
 - Adults are normally baptized at the Easter Vigil, but can also be baptized at any time during the year.

BAPTISM

- The practice of infant Baptism ...
- The Baptism of infants has been the constant tradition of the Church from Apostolic times. There is evidence for this in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 16:15, 16:33 and 18:8).
- Church law states that children should be baptized in the first weeks after birth (c. 867 §1).

BAPTISM



BAPTISM

- There are two reasons for infant baptism
- First, Baptism is necessary for salvation and so the reception of Baptism safeguards the soul of an infant or small child. By faith we know they will go to heaven.
- Second, just as we need to care for our bodies, so too we need to care for our souls. Baptism is caring for the spiritual part of us.

HOMEWORK

- Watch the videos on Baptism.
- Take out pictures or movies of your child(ren)'s baptism(s) and show them to your child(ren).
- Tell your children who their godparents are and how you chose them.

HOMework

- Ask your children if and when they are saying their prayers.
- See that your children complete any homework assignments they have.