



Holy Baptism

We are delighted in your interest in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. St. Luke's understands Holy Baptism to be the means whereby a person is made a member of the Christian Church. This makes it the most basic official act of the Christian faith that we approach with joy, discipline, and seriousness.

LET'S LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS MARVELOUS BLESSING!

What is Baptism?

Often, Christian parents know that baptism is important, but they can't quite remember why. We look to Scripture for clarification and encouragement that Baptism is not only good, but it is in keeping with the truth of God's Holy Word.

What does the Word of God say about Baptism?

In Acts 2:37-39, Peter tells a large crowd of people gathered on Pentecost that Baptism washes away sins, and gives the gift of the Holy Spirit.

In Acts 22:16, Paul reinforces this truth when he says that he was baptized for the forgiveness of sins.

Peter writes in his first letter (3:21) that Baptism now saves us.

Jesus Himself taught (John 3:5) that one cannot enter the Kingdom of heaven unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

What benefits does Baptism give?

In these Bible passages, we are reminded that Baptism is far more than a tradition of the church through the generations. It is a gift from God Himself, and brings eternal blessings.

One who is baptized, according to Scripture, receives the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit; in fact, one who is baptized receives salvation.

Who is to be Baptized?

The person to be baptized is the person who needs to be forgiven of sins; who needs the gift of the Holy Spirit, who needs to be saved. Simply put...anybody

who is a sinner needs to be baptized, including infants and young children.

Why are infants and young children baptized?

Infants are in need of baptism because they are sinners in need of the blessings offered in Baptism. Remember that the blessings of Baptism have nothing to do with our own efforts, but with the promises of God. Since infants are sinful by their very nature, we gratefully and eagerly bring them to the gracious water of baptism. It is not only our responsibility to do so, but our privilege and joy as well.

When and where is a person to be Baptized?

In Acts 8 (36-40) we read of Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch. Out in the desert, having heard a clear teaching of Jesus, the Ethiopian man said, "Look! Here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?" Philip baptized him then and there. No delay.

Throughout Acts there are stories of Baptisms like this. They are exciting and enlightening stories of God working in the lives of people.

The baptism, which brings all the blessings of salvation, is too precious to delay. We encourage you to think of the greatness of your child being made God's own child!

Now...

...you are encouraged to make plans for the baptism – not out of fear, but out of joy and eagerness to see your child become a Child of God through this marvelous blessing.

What Does All This Mean For You?

Baptism is one very special way God delivers to us the blessings Christ won for us. His love for you is so amazing that He has provided the gift of baptism to make your child His own, too. We encourage you to respond to God's teaching that He saves us through Baptism.



"There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all." -Ephesians 4:5-6