

# 1

## God chooses me



Growing up Catholic...  
...begins at Baptism!

- ✚ God already loved you before you were baptized!
- ✚ But at baptism you became a special friend of Jesus
- ✚ What else happened at baptism?

### What happens at Baptism?

- You became part of **the Church**, God's Family
- You received **special help** from God to overcome temptations
- You went **under the water** blessed at Easter
- You came out of the water as **a friend of Jesus**
- The **Holy Spirit** came to you in a special way
- You professed your **faith** along with everyone else
- You began the process of **growing up Catholic**

**God chose YOU!**



## Prayer Celebration: Growing up Catholic begins at Baptism

Begin with the Sign of the Cross. Everyone say it aloud together.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Leader:** We thank you, Jesus, for giving us this water, which has been blessed by you and the Church.

**Parents & Children:** With this water, we were all baptized!

**Leader:** And we thank you, Jesus, because you forgive our sins and help us live as your people.

**Parents & Children:** In Baptism, we were made your children!

**Leader:** And now we thank you, Jesus, because we here in this room are all members of your Church. With these people, we will prepare for the wonderful Sacrament of Reconciliation.

You have called us by name to this important time of our lives.

Each child in the room writes his or her name, and that of his or her parents or guardians, on a special piece of paper. Each child tells his or her name and that of their parents or guardians.

**Reader:** Please listen now to God's Word from the Bible: (Matthew 4:18-20)

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew...

...This is the Gospel of the Lord

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Listen to the Leader.

**All:** (pause after each line)

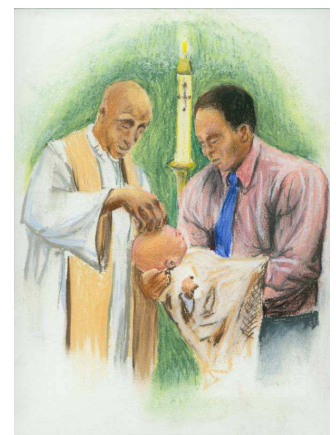
Jesus, we accept your invitation

to grow closer to you in love

and to learn about this Sacrament.

Please bless us and be with us.

We love you and want to love you more. Amen.



# Your Baptism Day

At baptism, you became a special friend of Jesus.

When were you baptized?

---



---



---

Month

Day

Year

What is your name?

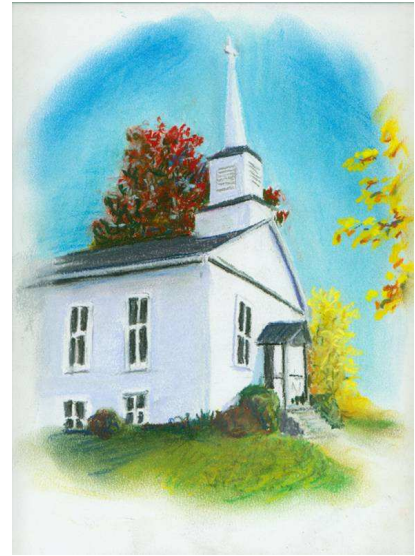
---



---



---



## What happened at your baptism?

**The priest or deacon began the baptism.**

The first thing he did was to trace the **Sign of the Cross** on your forehead. He said, "I claim you for Christ...by this sign..."

**Words! Write the words to say in the Sign of the Cross.**

In the name of the

---



---



---

And of the

---



---



---

And of the Holy

---



---



---



## Meeting Jesus in the Bible

At baptism we become friends with Jesus, who is our friend first. He chooses us because he loves us very much.

### Jesus Meets and Loves the Children

The moms and dads

□ere bringing their children to see Jesus.

And Jesus was happy to see them. He blessed them all!

Some people told these children and their parents to go away!

But Jesus made it very clear that he loved the children. He wanted them to be near him!

“What I am teaching you is for these children,” he said.

In fact, he told everyone, “You should all have the simple faith of these children!”

Then he hugged them all and blessed them.



*(Based on Mark 10:13-16)*

**Color this picture together...**



"Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for such is the kingdom of God.'" *Mark 10:14*

**Now write Jesus a letter to thank him for loving you. Tell him how much you want to be his friend. What will you promise Jesus? How will you show your love to him?**

*Dear Jesus,*

Handwriting practice lines consisting of ten sets of three horizontal lines (top, dashed middle, bottom) for writing.



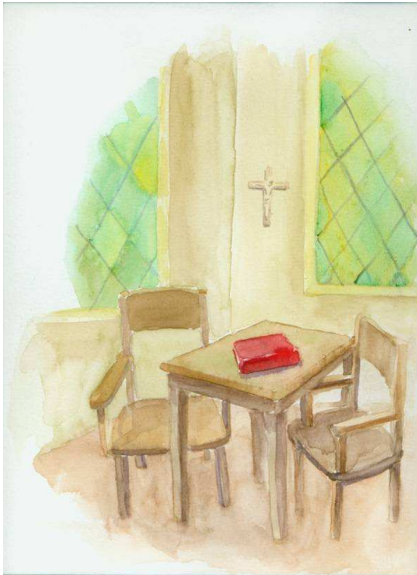
*Love,*

Handwriting practice lines consisting of three horizontal lines (top, dashed middle, bottom) for writing.

# The Sacrament of Reconciliation

## The Reconciliation Room

Where do we go to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation?



- It's a **small room**
- Where you meet the priest
- It has chairs and a Bible
- You sit down or kneel and begin

### The priest welcomes you

What is the first thing the priest will do when you enter this room?

- He says, "Please come in."
- "You are **welcome** here."
- "May God bless you and help you to make a good Confession today."
- Then you make **the Sign of the Cross** together.







## At home this week

Work on this together at home as a way of continuing the process of preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Make sure your child knows the following prayers by heart this week. Help him or her rehearse these and pray them together at bedtime each night. Also here is a prayer they do not need to memorize but which makes a good night prayer for you to pray with them.

### **Sign of the Cross**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### **Our Father**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

### **Hail Mary**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

### **Glory Be**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### **Night Prayer**

O my God, at the end of this day I thank you most heartily for all the graces I have received from you. I am sorry for the times that I did not make better use of them. I am sorry for all the sins I have committed against you. Forgive me, O my God, and graciously protect me this night. Dear Mary, my heavenly mother, take me under your protection. Dear St. Joseph, pray for me. Jesus, my friend and companion, thank you for your sacrifice and for making me strong in my faith. Please give me a peaceful night of rest. Amen.