

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church

Sacrament Essentials: Baptism

John 3:16. *For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.*

1. What is the purpose of this sacrament? How is Jesus present in it?

In the sacrament of baptism, Jesus forgives us of all our sins and makes us children in His family.

2. What are the essential elements of baptism?

The three-fold pouring of water
The formula *I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit*

3. What are the effects of Baptism?

Baptism overcomes original and all personal sin, all effects of sin, makes us God's children, a member of the Body of Christ and a Temple of the Holy Spirit.

Baptism marks our soul permanently with an indelible mark.

4. Who can receive Baptism?

Baptism can be administered to anyone who is not already baptized.

5. Who is the minister of Baptism?

The ordinary ministers of baptism are bishops, priests and deacons; however, anyone can be baptized in an emergency if they intend to do what the Church does when she baptizes.

6. What are the theological virtues?

In baptism we receive the theological virtues, which are faith, hope and love.