

We Celebrate Baptism

4

WE GATHER

✝ The word Amen is a prayer. When we pray this word, we are saying “Yes, we believe!” Let us respond Amen together after each of these prayers.

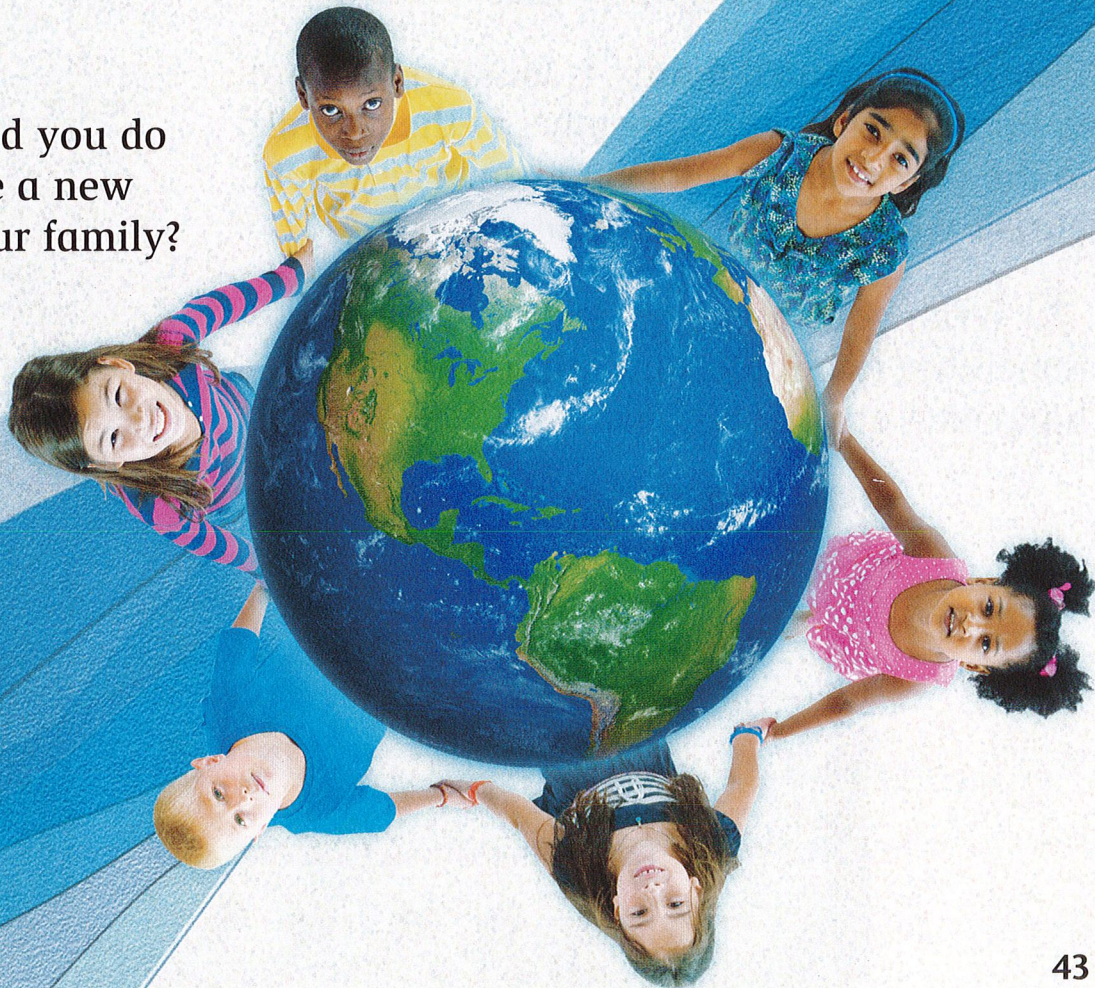
Child 1: God the Father, we believe in you.

Child 2: God the Son, we believe in you.

Child 3: God the Holy Spirit, we believe in you.

All: We are baptized. We are children of God.
We live out the Good News of Jesus every day.

☀ What would you do to welcome a new baby to your family?




WE BELIEVE

At Baptism we become children of God and members of the Church.

The López family is very happy! They have just welcomed a new baby into their family. The baby's name is Ana.

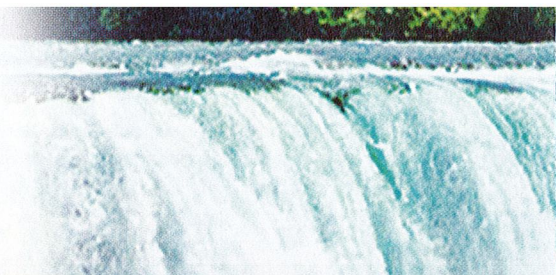
Soon Ana will belong to another family, the Catholic Church. In Baptism Ana will become a child of God and a member of the Church. When we were baptized, we became children of God and members of the Church. Baptism imprints on our soul a character, a permanent spiritual sign. Thus we are only baptized once.

Everyone in Ana's family is looking forward to bringing the newest member of their family to the parish church for Baptism. The whole parish will celebrate her Baptism.

 Write your name on each line to remember two important things that happened at your Baptism.

I, _____,
am a child of God.

I, _____,
am a member of the Church.






At Baptism we receive grace, a share in God's life.

Water is an important sign of the Sacrament of Baptism. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are placed in water or water is poured over our foreheads. God gives us a new life. We call God's life in us **grace**.

When God made the first man and woman, he let them share in his own life. But they disobeyed God. They sinned and lost their share in God's life. That first sin is called **Original Sin**.

We are all born with Original Sin. Through Baptism, Original Sin and all other sins are taken away. **Baptism** is the sacrament in which we are freed from sin and given grace, a share in God's life.

 Talk about why water is a sign of our Baptism. Close your eyes. Feel cool water pouring over you. Thank God for the gift of grace.

Key Words

grace God's life in us

Original Sin the first man and woman disobeyed God; the first sin

Baptism the sacrament in which we are freed from sin and given grace

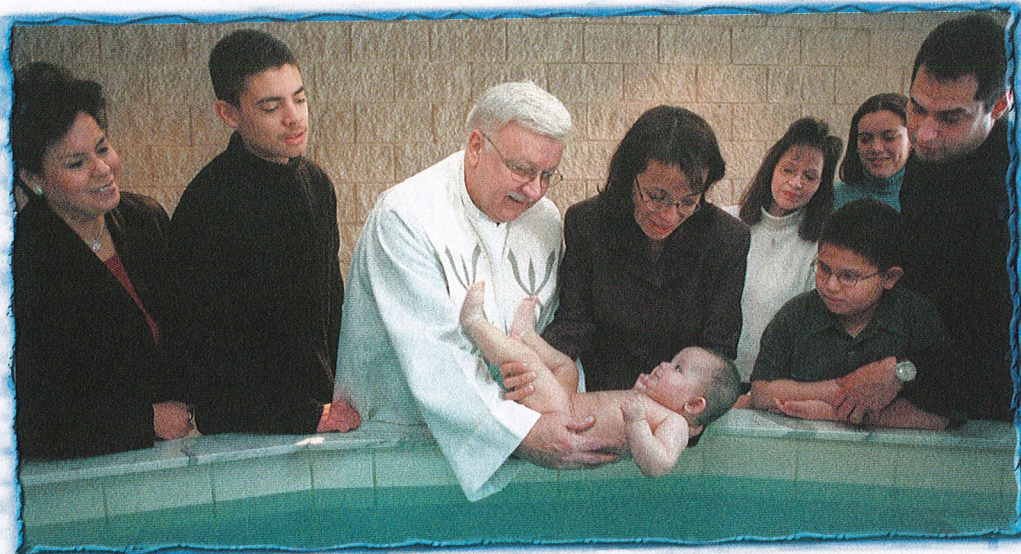
We celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism with special words and actions.

This is what happened when the López family and their friends celebrated Ana's Baptism.

Read Along

- Father Ramón and the parish community greeted the family.
- Father told Ana's parents and godparents that they should help Ana to keep growing in faith.
- Father traced the sign of the cross on Ana's forehead. Ana's parents and godparents did this also. This action showed that Ana now belonged to Jesus in a special way.
- Father Ramón read a story about Jesus. Father talked about the story.
- Father blessed the water in the baptismal pool.
- Father asked Ana's parents and godparents whether they reject sin and believe in God.
- Father placed Ana in the water of the baptismal pool three times. He said the words of Baptism. It was with water and these words that Ana was baptized:

Ana, I baptize you in the name
of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.



Each of us was baptized with water and these same words.



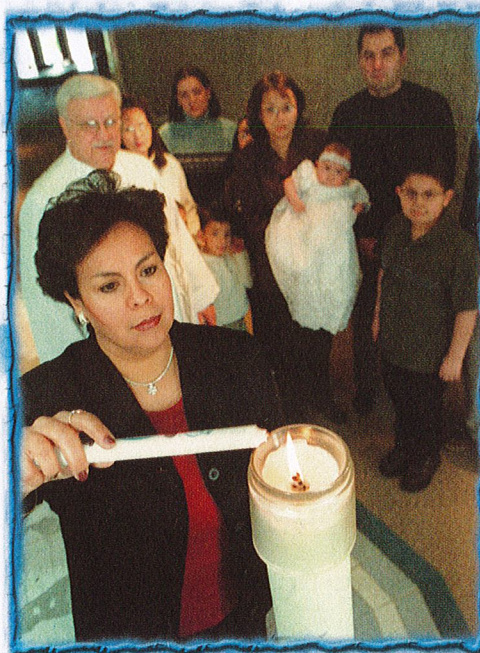
Who do you think was at your Baptism?

As Catholics...

Godmothers and godfathers are very special people. They are chosen by the parents of the child being baptized. They have a special role in this sacrament. They agree to help the parents teach the child about their Catholic faith. The godparents help the child to live as a friend of Jesus. They help the child to love God and others.

We can show that we are children of God by what we say and do.

The following words and actions were also a part of the celebration of Ana's Baptism in her parish.




Read Along

- Father Ramón put a white garment on Ana. He said that the white garment showed that Ana was a friend and follower of Jesus.
- Ana's godmother went to the large Easter candle by the baptismal pool. She lit a smaller candle for Ana from it. Father told Ana's parents and godparents to help keep the light of Christ burning in Ana's life.
- Father Ramón invited everyone to pray the Our Father together.
- Father blessed the family and everyone in church.

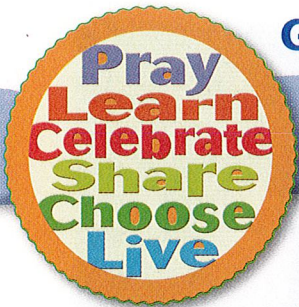
These same words and actions were part of the celebration of your Baptism.

WE RESPOND

 On the candle write the names of people who are helping you to become a good Catholic.

What will you do and say to share the light of Christ with others?





PROJECT

Show What *you* Know

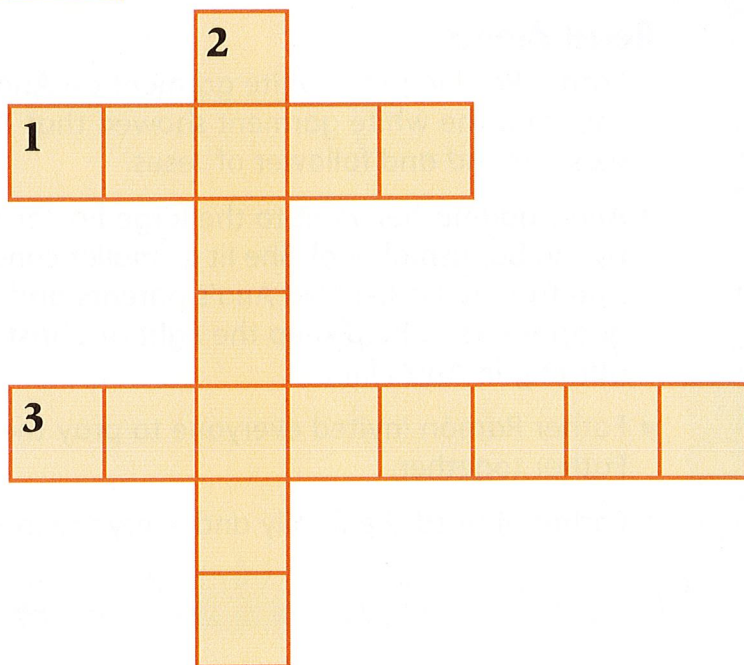
Complete the crossword puzzle

with **Key Words**.

1 Across: God's life in us

2 Down: The sacrament in which we are freed from sin and given grace

3 Across: The first sin is called _____ Sin.

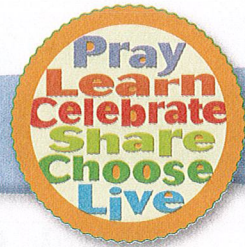


Picture This

Write what is happening in each photo from Ana's Baptism.



DISCIPLE

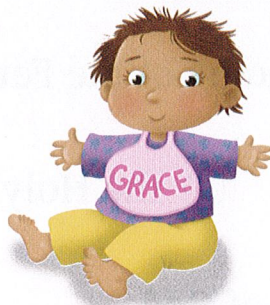


Make *it* Happen

Design a card for someone who has just been baptized.
Use words and pictures.

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Fast Facts



God's life in us is called grace. Because God's grace is so important to us, many people name their babies Grace. More than 92,000 baby girls have been named Grace in the past ten years.

(Social Security Administration, 2008)

Take Home

Interview your parents or godparents about your Baptism. Write the questions you will ask them.

CHAPTER TEST

Check the sentences that tell what happens at Baptism.

1. ____ We become children of God.
2. ____ We become grandparents.
3. ____ We receive grace, a share in God's life.
4. ____ We become members of the Church.

Fill in the circle beside the correct answer.

5. When we are baptized, we are placed in _____ or it is poured on our foreheads three times.
 water oil
6. When we are baptized, we are _____ Original Sin.
 given freed from
7. The priest baptizes us in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of _____.
 our godparents the Holy Spirit
8. We show that we are children of God _____.
 by what we say and do only by what we say

9–10. Write two reasons Baptism is a special celebration for us.
