



Sacraments of Initiation

lay the Foundation of every Christian Life

A Word on the Sacraments

It is our pleasure to welcome you and your child/children to the wonderful experience of education in a Catholic School. As a member of the Catholic Faith Community (Parish, School, Family) we invite you to receive the special gifts of grace we obtain through the sacraments.



Sacraments ...

are visible realities, outward signs and actions that convey for us the invisible reality of God's love and saving grace, God's embrace.

Sacraments of Initiation

Through these sacraments we enter into the Holy Covenant, a Sacred Bond with God the Father, His Son, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. We become members of the Catholic Church.

Through the Church and her sacraments God is reaching out to hold us and transform us in his love.



Baptism

Water along with the use of the Trinitarian names is our Baptism followed by anointing with oil, wearing a white garment and lighting a candle as sacramental signs of new birth into divine life.

Baptism

- is ... "the gateway to life in the Spirit" CCC 1213
- "is God's most beautiful and magnificent gift" CCC 1216

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. ... "

Mt 28.19-20



Confirmation

The gifts of the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Holy Spirit come upon us in a special way.

Confirmation

- is the laying on of hands and anointing with oil. ***"This seal of the Holy Spirit marks our total belonging to Christ" and strengthens us as witnesses of Christ. CCC1296***

"... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses ... to the ends of the earth." Acts 1.8



Eucharist

We receive Holy Communion the body and blood of Jesus Christ. We grow in union with God and intimacy with Christ.

Eucharist

- is Jesus Christ ***"the bread of life, come down from heaven" CCC 1338***
- ***"sustains our strength" along the journey of life CCC1419***
- ***"is the source and summit of Christian life" CCC1324***

"This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." 1 Cor 11.23



Reconciliation

We confess our sins to a priest who "is the sign and the instrument of God's merciful love for (us)". CCC1464

Reconciliation

- grants us the forgiveness' of our sins CCC1441
- brings about great peace consolation and healing CCC1468
- restores our dignity as children of God. CCC1468

"If you forgive the sins of any, they're forgiven them;" Jn 20.23



A word on Reconciliation

Reconciliation is not a sacrament of initiation. It is a sacrament of healing. Reconciliation is celebrated before the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

Resources:

Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)

December 27, 2006, Pastoral Letter to the Faithful of the Diocese of St. Paul – *The Restoration of the Order of the Sacraments of Christian Initiation.*

When Your Child Attends a Catholic School (Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools)

Students who are not Catholic or belong to another Christian denomination or Religion still learn about the sacraments in their religious education classes, however, respecting their own Faith Tradition they are to receive their sacraments or Religious rites and rituals in their own Faith Community.

Sacramental Preparation for each sacrament is held at the parish.



Signs of Grace is the current resource used throughout our diocese (fall 2025) for the sacramental preparation for children for Reconciliation, Confirmation and Holy Communion, all with an accompanying program for parents .



Is Your Child Baptized?

No and I'd like to learn more

"Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments." CCC1213



Are you interested in the sacraments for yourself?

Reach out to your local Catholic parish office so they can put you in touch with the parish priest or the person who facilitates this process.

Begin your journey now by watching



the online Catholic platform that has a wide variety of resources for those interested in the Catholic faith and those seeking to grow their Catholic faith.



Register for a free account at **signup.formed.org** or scan the QR code.

Type the name of the Catholic parish nearest you, click on it and you will be able to sign up.