

Family Preparation for the Baptism of their Child
Reflection 3 The Baptism of Our Child
Invite all members of the family to participate

Parents: Welcome all and explain that over the next few weeks they will be preparing at home for the Baptism of... name of the baby.

Let's begin: In this reflection we will focus on the Moment of the Baptism of our child and what it means for our child and for us.

The Moment of Baptism:

- Discuss together: At the Baptism of your child, the priest (or Deacon) will invite you and the godparents to place a hand on your child. What do you think this means?

"... I baptise you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"

- Before you answer next questions: Please read any or all of the following Gospel passages: **Matthew 4:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-22**
- Now discuss:
1. At the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan apart from John the Baptist and the crowd who were the three most important participants?
 2. What is the connection between the these three and the words of Baptism quoted above?
 3. So what has happened your child and his/her name?
 4. Who does your Child belong to?

Let's look at SIGNS that "explain" what has happened to our child?

Talk to each other about the importance of these. They ARE:

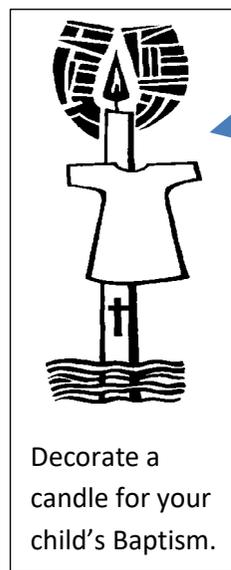
1. ***Pouring of the Baptism Water*** over the head of and naming of your child.
2. ***Anointing with the Holy Oil of Chrism*** - Your Child is ANOINTED- Chosen to be part of People of God sharing with them in the



Ministry of Christ as Priest, Prophet and King, (in Personal Sacrifice, in Proclaiming God's Word, and Leadership in Christian Life).

3. **Clothing with the White Garment** – The wedding garment marking your child out as one who is

called to the Wedding Banquet of God's Kingdom.



Decorate a candle for your child's Baptism.

4. **The Candle Lit from the Easter (Paschal)Candle.**

5. ***Blessing of the ears and lips of your Child (the Ephephetha).*** Recall some

miracles of Jesus when he gave people back their power of hearing and of speech. What did those people do?

6. **All pray together the Lord's Prayer:**

The common prayer of the New People of God.

7. **Special Blessing on the Parents and Godparents:** Now it begins!!! Discuss – ***What is beginning?***



Make a scarf or stole for your child's Baptism.

- ❖ Read again any one or all of: **Matthew 4:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-22**
- ❖ Pray together for your child and for yourselves.
- ❖ Pray together the "Our Father".