THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

BAPTISM

There are three (3) sacraments of initiation.

Baptism…

Confirmation…

Holy Communion.

BAPTISM

Prefiguration of Baptism in the Old Covenant

water

Noah's Ark

passage through the Red Sea

the crossing of the Jordan River

BAPTISM

How were these prefigurations fulfilled?

All the Old Covenant prefigurations were fulfilled by Our Lord Jesus Christ…

when He had Himself baptized by St. John in the Jordan River.

Why would Our Lord Jesus do that?

BAPTISM

From St. Maximus of Turin, we have these words:

"Therefore the Lord Jesus came to baptism, and willed to have his body washed with water. Perhaps someone will say: "He who is holy, why did he wish to be baptized?" Pay attention therefore! Christ is baptized, not that he may be sanctified in the waters, but ***that he himself may sanctify the waters, and by his own purification may purify those streams which he touches****".*

BAPTISM

And not only that, but also…

"Christ therefore takes the lead in baptism, so that Christian peoples may follow after him with confidence."

BAPTISM

Form and Matter

In the Latin Church, the **form** for Baptism is:

> *N., I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*
>
> During this time, water is poured over the head three times.

BAPTISM

Form and Matter

Why would we use those words for the form?

Well, from the *holy Gospel according to Matthew* we have these words from the lips of the Lord, Himself:

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****....* (*Mt* 28:19)

BAPTISM

Form and Matter

The **matter** for Baptism is water.

Remember…

> *The matter...is any sort of natural water, which is simply and without qualification commonly called water, be it sea water, river water, water from a pond, well, or fountain* (*CCT*).

BAPTISM

Effects of Baptism

The effects of Baptism are:

the removal of all sins…

that includes Original Sin…

and any other sins that have been committed.

BAPTISM

Capacity for Baptism

Who is eligible to receive Baptism?

Canon 864 of the *Code of Canon Law* states:

> *Every person not yet baptized and only such a person is able to be baptized.*

BAPTISM

Ministers of Baptism

In the Latin Rite, the ordinary minister of baptism is a bishop, priest, or deacon.

But, the among the functions entrusted to the pastor is found *the administration of baptism*. (*CIC* 530, n.1)

BAPTISM

Conditional Baptism

If there is doubt, after serious investigation, as to whether a person has been baptized, or whether baptism was conferred validly, baptism is to be conferred conditionally.

BAPTISM

Responsibility of Sponsors

It is the responsibility of a sponsor…

to help the newly baptized to lead a Christian life in harmony with baptism…

and to faithfully fulfill the obligations connected with it.

BAPTISM

Number of Sponsors

Only one male…

or one female sponsor…

or one of each sex is to be employed. (*CIC* 873)

BAPTISM

Qualifications of Sponsors

Chosen by the one to be baptized (or parent or guardian);

have completed the sixteenth year (may be different according to specific Diocesan Canon or the judgement of the pastor or other minister);

must be confirmed, having received First Communion, *and leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken;*

BAPTISM

Qualifications of Sponsors (cont)

not be under any canonical penalty;

not the father or the mother of the one to be baptized;

Also…

> *A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community* ***may not be admitted except as a witness to baptism*** *and with a Catholic sponsor.* (*CIC* 874)

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Outline

Rite of Receiving the Child

Sacred Celebration of the Word of God

Prayer of Exorcism and Anointing Before the Baptism

Celebration of Baptism

Explanatory Rites

Conclusion of the Rite

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Rite of Receiving the Child

The celebrant greets those present, especially the parents and godparents using these or similar words:

Dear parents and godparents: Your family has experienced great joy at the birth of your child, and the Church shares your happiness. Today this joy has brought you to the Church to give thanks to God for the gift of your child and to celebrate a new birth in the waters of Baptism. This community rejoices with you, for today the number of those baptized in Christ will be increased, and we offer you our support in raising your children in the practice of the faith. Therefore, brother and sisters, let us now prepare ourselves to participate in this celebration, listening to God's Word, praying for this child and his (her) family, and renewing our commitment to the Lord and to his people.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Rite of Receiving the Child

The celebrant first asks the parents of the child:

What name do you give (or: have you given) your child?

Parents:

N:

Celebrant:

What do you ask of God's Church for N.?

Parents:

Baptism.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Rite of Receiving the Child

Then the celebrant addresses the parents in these or similar words:

In asking for Baptism for your child, you are undertaking the responsibility of raising him (her) in the faith, so that, keeping God's commandments, he (she) may love the Lord and his (her) neighbor as Christ has taught us. Do you understand this responsibility?

Parents:

We do.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Rite of Receiving the Child

Then turning to the godparents, the celebrant asks in these or similar words:

Are you ready to help the parents of this child in their duty?

Godparents:

We are (I am).

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Rite of Receiving the Child

Then the celebrant continues, saying:

N., the Church of God receives you with great joy. In her name I sign you with the Sign of the Cross of Christ our Savior; then, after me, your parents (and godparents) will do the same.

And, without saying anything, he signs the child on the forehead. Afterwards he invites the parents, and if it seems appropriate, the godparents, to do the same.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Sacred Celebration of the Word of God

Biblical Readings and Homily

Prayer of the Faithful

Prayer of Exorcism and Anointing Before Baptism

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Sacred Celebration of the Word of God

Biblical Readings and Homily

Then one or two passages of scripture are read, with all seated.

Matthew 28:18-20

Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations….

Mark 1:9-11

Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan….

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Sacred Celebration of the Word of God

Biblical Readings and Homily

Mark 10:13-16

People were bringing children to Jesus that he might touch them…. "Let the children come to me…."

John 3:1-6

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews…. Jesus said to him, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless one is born of water and Spirit he cannot enter the Kingdom of God.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Sacred Celebration of the Word of God

Biblical Readings and Homily

There are other passages available that can be chosen.

If there are two readings, there are Responsorial Psalms that may be chosen.

After the Reading, the celebrant preaches a brief homily….

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Sacred Celebration of the Word of God

Prayer of the Faithful

There are five forms from which the Prayer of the Faithful may be chosen.

Afterwards, the celebrant invites those present to invoke the aid of the Saints.

There is an optional extended form which can be used.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Sacred Celebration of the Word of God

Prayer of Exorcism and Anointing Before Baptism

The Prayer of Exorcism is then said.

An optional form is also available.

After the Prayer of Exorcism…

> [t]he celebrant anoints the child on the breast with the Oil of Catechumens.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Sacred Celebration of the Word of God

Prayer of Exorcism and Anointing Before Baptism

However…

88. In the United States, if, for serious reasons, the celebrant judges it pastorally necessary or desirable, the Anointing before Baptism may be omitted. In that case, the celebrant says:

May the strength of Christ the Savior protect you; who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

And immediately, without saying anything, he lays his hand on the child.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Celebration of Baptism

90. When they have come to the font, the celebrant briefly reminds those present of the wonderful plan of God, who willed to sanctify the human soul and body through water. He may do this in these or similar words:

A

Let us pray, dear brothers and sisters, that the Lord God Almighty may bestow new life on this child by water and the Holy Spirit.

There is a B option.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Celebration of Baptism

Blessing of Water and Invocation of God over the Water

91. Then, turning to the font, the celebrant says the following Blessing (outside Easter Time)….

The blessing recalls God's preparation of water *to show forth the grace of Baptism,* how the Spirit hovered of the waters of creation,

the outpouring of the flood, the crossing of the Red Sea,

the baptism of the Lord Jesus by John the Baptist,

how Our Lord *as he hung upon the Cross, gave forth water from his side along with blood*,

and later commanded that his disciples baptize "*in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*"

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Celebration of Baptism

Blessing of Water and Invocation of God over the Water

The blessing also asks that *this water receive by the Holy Spirit the grace of your Only Begotten Son….*

The celebrant touches the water with his right hand and continues:

May the power of the Holy Spirit, O Lord, we pray, come down through your Son into the fullness of this font, so that all who have been buried with Christ by Baptism into death may rise again with him. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

There are different formulas to use during the Easter Time.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Celebration of Baptism

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

Now, the celebrant instructs the parents and godparents as to their duties toward the child:

Then the celebrant questions the parents and the godparents as to their renunciation of sin and…elicits the threefold profession of faith by the parents and godparents, who answer *I do* to each.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Celebration of Baptism

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

The celebrant, together with the community, gives assent to this profession of faith by saying:

This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus Our Lord.

All:

Amen.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Celebration of Baptism

Baptism

The celebrant invites the family to approach the font. In addition, using the name of the child, he asks the parents and godparents:

Is it your will, therefore, that N. should receive Baptism in the faith of the Church, which we have all professed with you?

Parents and godparents:

It is.

And immediately the celebrant baptizes the child…using the Trinitarian Formula.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Explanatory Rites

Anointing after Baptism

The celebrant then says:

Almighty God, Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ, has freed you from sin, given you new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and joined you to his people. He now anoints you with the Chrism of salvation, so that you may remain as a member of Christ, Priest, Prophet, and King, unto eternal life.

All:

Amen.

Then, without saying anything, the celebrant anoints the child with sacred Chrism in the crown of his (her) head.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Explanatory Rites

Clothing with a White Garment

After a brief prayer, to which all respond Amen, a white garment is placed on the child; another color is not permitted, unless it is demanded by local custom. It is desirable that the family itself provides this garment.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Explanatory Rites

Handing On of a Lighted Candle

The celebrant then takes the paschal candle and says:

Receive the light of Christ.

One member of the family (e.g., the father or godfather) lights a candle for the child from the paschal candle.

The celebrant then says:

Parents and godparents, this light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly, so that your child, enlightened by Christ, may walk always as a child of the light and, persevering in the faith, may run to meet the Lord when he comes with all the Saints in the heavenly court.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Explanatory Rites

"Ephphatha"

In the United States, the "Ephphatha" Rite takes place at the discretion of the celebrant. The celebrant touches the ears and mouth with his thumb, saying:

May the Lord Jesus, who made the deaf to hear and the mute to speak, grant that you may soon receive his word with your ears and profess the faith with your lips, to the glory of God the Father.

All:

Amen.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Conclusion of the Rite

Afterwards, unless the Baptism took place in the sanctuary, there is a procession to the altar, in which the lighted candle of the newly baptized child is carried.

Meanwhile it is desirable that a baptismal canticle be sung, e.g.:

Baptized in Christ

you are clothed in Christ,

alleluia, alleluia.

There are other options for canticles.

After a brief address, all say the Lord's Prayer with the celebrant.

THE RITE OF BAPTISM

Conclusion of the Rite

Blessing and Dismissal

The rite concludes with the blessing of the mother, the father, then all present.

The celebrant then dismisses those present:

Go in peace.

All:

Thanks be to God.