

YEAR 4 - LESSON 2 - FAMILY GUIDE WK. 2



FAMILIES FORMING DISCIPLES

A FAMILY-FOCUSED APPROACH TO FAITH FORMATION

THE SACRAMENTS OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

TOPIC: BAPTISM

FAMILY AT-HOME MISSION ACTIVITY

A sacrament is an outward sign instituted by Christ to give grace, to help us grow in holiness. Sacraments are mysteries of the New Covenant established by Jesus; they are signs of the sacred action and presence of God in our midst today. They are more than mere signs, however, for through the sacraments the Lord gives His grace—His divine life—to us.

Step 1: As a family, together, watch one or more of the videos below:

For tweens & teens & parents:

Catholic Answers for kids - [What is Grace?](#)

[What is the Sacrament of Baptism?](#) TheoMatters

[Why Baptizing Your Baby Is the Most Important Thing You Can Do](#)

[Are You a “Child of God”?](#)

[What’s original sin and how do we get it?](#)

[Baptism Explained, Video 7: Rite of Baptism](#)

[Baptism | Catholic Central](#)

For younger children:

Catholic Kids Media - [Jesus Gets Baptized?! - Baptism of the Lord](#)

My Time with Jesus - [Ep. 47 - Original Sin](#)

If your parish does have FORMED watch: Born into the Kingdom:
The Miracle of Baptism, Brother Francis Episode 4

Step 2: Find baptism items or sacramental(s) that were received by each family member at his/her Baptism. These could be baptismal candles, or other sacramentals, such as a prayer book, rosary, or crucifix/cross, or even the baptismal clothing and photos. Bring those items to the Week 3 gathering.

Step 3: This is the month of the Rosary (October), so place your family rosary on your home altar next to your family bible.

Step 4: On November 1st, All Saints Day, we celebrate and show God that we are grateful for the saints who are in Heaven and for all the help they give us. Say a prayer to the saint with whose name you were baptized, asking him/her to pray for you.

Step 5: On November 2nd, All Souls Day, we pray for our loved ones who have died as well as for all those who are in Purgatory waiting for us to pray for them, so they too can go to Heaven and finally be with God forever!

Find a picture of a family member or friend of the family who has died that you would like us all to pray for during Week 3 and on All Soul's Day, or draw a picture of that person if you don't have a photo.

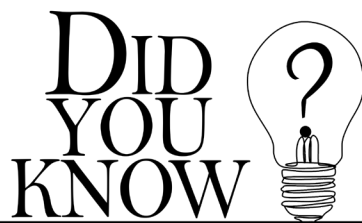
Place the photo or picture on your home altar/prayer corner. (This can be the same person that you prayed for last year, or you can add as many people as you want.)

Bring the picture to the Week 3 gathering. Be ready to share about who the person is, and why he/she is important to your family. Also, was that special person named after a saint?

Do you have a favorite saint? Why is that saint your favorite? Are you named after a saint?

Who is that saint?

Step 6: Gather in your prayer space/around your home altar as a family. Take a moment to be silent with God together, and say a prayer for your family member or family friend, and for one another. Then end by praying a decade of the Rosary together while meditating on the First Luminous Mystery, *The Baptism of Jesus*.



The Grace of Baptism: Calling All Godparents (and the whole Church)!

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches not only that our faith must grow after Baptism, but also that we need each other's help. It especially highlights the important role of parents, godparents, and the whole community of the Church: "For the grace of Baptism to unfold, the parents' help is important. So too is the role of the godfather and godmother, who must be firm believers, able and ready to help the newly baptized - child or adult-on the road of Christian life. Their task is a truly ecclesial function (*officium*). The whole ecclesial community bears some responsibility for the development and safeguarding of the grace given at Baptism" (CCC, no. 1255). Take a moment to pray for your godparents. If you are a godparent, pray for your godchild(ren) and reach out soon.

