

Session Plans

Baptism Trail

Parent/Catechist Formation Session

Explanation of Trail: Fr. Scott

Talk: Fr. Scott

Meditation: John

Milepost 1. When is your Christian birthday?

Learn your date of baptism and make a commitment to celebrate your Baptism on your next Christian birthday.

Milepost 2. What is Baptism?

Baptism is the first of the three sacraments of initiation:

Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

Through Baptism:

1. We become Christians.
2. We are cleansed of our sin.
3. We are reborn as children of God.
4. We are adopted into the family of God, the Church.
5. We become heirs of heaven.

Milepost 3. How are we baptized?

With water in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Milepost 4. Three Ways and three Meanings

Three ways we can be baptized:

1. by *sprinkling* water on the head,
2. by *pouring* water over the head,
3. by *immersing* the whole body in water.

A memory tool to remember three meanings of Baptism:

1. *Sprinkling*—Like in a shower, we are cleansed of our sin, our original sin and our actual sin.
2. *Pouring*—We receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit

when we are anointed with Chrism oil.

3. *Immersion*—Death and Resurrection

As we are immersed under the water, we die with Christ.

When we rise out of the water, we rise to new life with Him.

Milepost 5. Learn about the Baptismal Rite.

Be present at a Baptism.

Learn the meaning of anointing with Chrism.

Learn the meaning of the white baptismal garment.

Learn the meaning of the Light of Christ and the Paschal Candle.

Milepost 6. Do your best to memorize the Apostles Creed.

We believe in One Lord, One Faith, and One Baptism. (Ephesians 4:5)

Our Faith is Trinitarian.

The Apostles Creed is the ancient Trinitarian baptismal creed.

Do your best to memorize the Apostles Creed.

Equipment (Things Parents/Families receive)

Flash cards

Apostle's creed Master

Baptismal Interview

Rite of Baptism master

Baptism Facts sheet

Bible Verses that involve Baptism

Mark 16:15-16, John 3:3-5, Acts 10:47-48, Acts 16:15

1 Corinthians 12:13, 1 Peter 3:21, Galatians 3:27

First Hiker Formation Session (Takes place at the same time as the Parent/Catechist formation session. The youth and the youth ministry core team members are the kids' catechists.)

Paige and Julie have fun activities planned.

Second Hiker Formation Session (taught by parents and catechists)

Milepost 1. When is your Christian birthday?

Learn your date of baptism and make a commitment to celebrate your Baptism on your next Christian birthday.

- Baptismal Family interview- Talk about your own baptism. What happened, where, and when, look at pictures, who are your God parents?
- Make your own poster/report of your baptism to share with the class.
*** Bring in pictures, video, etc., if you have them.

Milepost 2. What is Baptism?

Activity: Students brainstorm about Baptism:

- A. Create a Venn diagram of groups which they belong to outside of school.
- B. 2 groups placed on each circle
- C. Discuss what each group has (symbol) and how do you become part of it.
- D. What parts in each group relate?
- E. Discuss how being part of the Catholic Church is important

****Discuss What Baptism is and why it is important as Catholic Christians.****

Baptism is the first of the three sacraments of initiation:
Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

Through Baptism:

1. We become Christians.
2. We are cleansed of our sin.
3. We are reborn as children of God.
4. We are adopted into the family of God, the Church.
5. We become heirs of heaven.

Milepost 6. Work on trying to memorize the Apostles Creed to the best of your ability. Practice saying this at home and at each class.

See the additional resources page for extra activities with Baptism.

Third Hiker Formation Session (taught by parents and catechists)

Milepost 3. How are we baptized?

With water in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Milepost 4. Three Ways and three Meanings

Three ways we can be baptized:

1. by *sprinkling* water on the head,
2. by *pouring* water over the head,
3. by *immersing* the whole body in water.

A memory tool to remember the three meanings of Baptism:

1. *Sprinkling*—Like in a shower, we are cleansed of our sin, our original sin and our actual sin.
2. *Pouring*—We receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit when we are anointed with Chrism oil.
3. *Immersion*—Death and Resurrection
As we are immersed under the water, we die with Christ.
When we rise out of the water, we rise to new life with Him.

Activity 1: Use real water and sprinkle, pour, and immerse kids in water to show example.

Activity 2: Ways to be baptized flash card game: pick flash cards out of a bag. Answer the question and then throw a soft squishy ball to another as each person answers the question.

Activity 3: Sorting Baptism symbol game: have teams sort their group of cards based on the names, symbols and meaning. The team that gets done first is the winner. They have to all reread and make sure everyone on their team knows the answers

Milepost 5. Work on trying to memorize the Apostles Creed to the best of your ability. Practice saying this at home and at each class

See the additional resources page for extra activities with Baptism.

Forth Hiker Formation Session (taught by parents and catechists)

5. Learn about the Baptismal Rite.

Be present at a Baptism.

Learn the meaning of anointing with Chrism.

Learn the meaning of the white baptismal garment.

Learn the meaning of the baptismal candle and Paschal/Easter candle.

Activity 1: Teacher demonstrates, *role plays* a baptism. (Bring in props.)

(Pick students to be part of this.)

1. Naming of the child
2. Sign of the cross
3. Liturgy of the Word
4. First anointing with oil
5. Renunciation of sin & profession of faith by parents and godparents
6. Immersion or pouring of water
7. Anointing with oil of Chrism (forehead)
8. Clothing with white garment
9. Lighting of candle from Easter Candle

Activity 2: Pass out cards for each step. (each kid gets their own card) Have student's get in order of the steps. Have each student tell what their card is and why it is important.

Milepost 5. Work on trying to memorize the Apostles Creed to the best of your ability. Practice saying this at home and at each class.

Color the picture of apostle's creed as you discuss its meaning.

As kids learn their mileposts at each class, mark student's off. Make sure to know your kids and work with everyone at their ability. Review the mileposts with kids by having a "Celebration of Knowledge" at the end of each class.

See the additional resources page for extra activities with Baptism.