



OUR LADY OF FATIMA CATHOLIC CHURCH

BAPTISM PREPARATION HANDBOOK

AGES 7 & 8

September 2022

Jesus told His disciples to: ***“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”*** (Matthew 28:19-20).

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BAPTISM PREPARATION SCHEDULE

TOPIC	GET DONE BY	YOUR SIGN-OFF
Lesson 1 – How It All Began		
Lesson 2 – You are Made in God’s Image and Likeness		
Lesson 3 – Knowing Right From Wrong (Sin)		
Lesson 4 – Jesus Christ–One Way–The ONLY Way		
Lesson 5 – Baptism		
Lesson 6 – Prayers		
Contact Parish Representative to Meet, as Directed		

FOREWORD

This Baptism Preparation Handbook is preferred to be accomplished as a **self-paced correspondent course with the assistance of an adult, parent, godparent (preferred) or older brother or sister**. However, as conditions permit or as requested, this Handbook may be complete face-to-face with a parish representative. **NOTE that this handbook is for Baptism preparation only. Preparation for the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Penance and Reconciliation will be through another program.**

Opening Prayer: The Lord's Prayer

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those, who trespass against us. And lead us not, into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

God created everything that you see and don't see.

The first thing God created were **angels** in Heaven with Him.

An **angel** is a **spirit** with **no body** but they are very **smart**, they have a **soul** and have **free will** to choose what they do. Angels know what is right and what is wrong. **Your soul is a part of you that is also a part of God. It is where God lives inside of you.** Very cool!

God told His angels that He wanted to share His love not only with them but also with people. He was going to create the Earth for us to live on. People were to love each other as God loves them.

This made one of God's angels named **satan**, also known as the **devil**, very angry and he and God argued over God's love being shared with us. God threw **satan** and his followers out of Heaven because of the argument.

God then started creating the **Earth** for us to live on. He created birds, fish, animals, mountains, rivers and oceans. And then He created us.



It took God **six days** to create everything that you see on Earth—the land and in the oceans below—and the stars at night in the sky above.

On the sixth day, God created people, you and me, your mom and dad, who are just like the angels. We are smart, have a spirit, and are able to choose what we do. **But God gave us bodies which angels don't have.**

The first two people that God created were a man named **Adam** and a woman named **Eve**.



After doing all that creating, God rested on the seventh day.

How many days are there in a week? _____

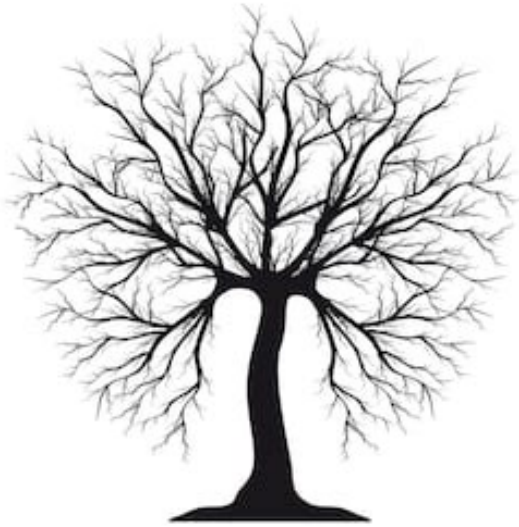
What do you see around you during night and day? _____

God and His angels live in **Heaven** and we live on the **Earth**.

Adam and Eve had everything they wanted and did not have to work. They never got sick, they would never die, and they were always happy. They enjoyed the beautiful Earth including the garden that they lived in.

The garden, the **Garden of Eden**, was **Paradise** where there were many beautiful mountains, trees and waterfalls.

In the center of the Garden were two special trees that God gave names to—the **Tree of Life** and the **Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil**.



Tree of Life



Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil

Evil is another name for bad!

Name some good behaviors or actions that you could do. _____

Name some bad behaviors or actions that you could do. _____

God told Adam that he could eat the fruit from any tree that he wanted **except** from the **Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil** and if he did eat that fruit, he would die.

In exchange for Adam's obeying God and not eating the **forbidden fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil**, God offered Adam and Eve, and all of us, both physical life (body) and spiritual life (soul). There would be no death or illness (sickness).

Do you know someone who is sick? If so, who is it and how are they special to you?

Do you know someone who has died? If so, who is it and how were they special to you?

THE CHOICE THAT CHANGED EVERYTHING

One day, while Eve was in the Garden, a **serpent** (a snake), who was really **satan** (the devil), told Eve to eat the fruit from the **Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil**.

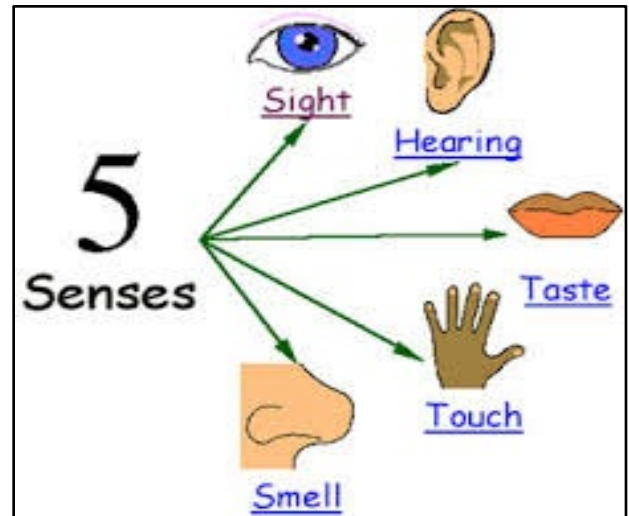


Eve said no to the devil but the devil lied and told her that she would not die like God said she would.

However, when Eve saw that the fruit from the **Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil** was **pleasing to her eyes** (looked really good) and was **good for gaining knowledge**, she ate the fruit and then she offered it to Adam and he ate it also.

How many senses do you have? _____

Most people have 5 senses. They are:



Eve **SAW** that the fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil was “pleasing to her **eyes**”.

Which one of the 5 senses did Eve use?

God was angry with the devil because he tempted Eve to eat the fruit from the **Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil**.

And so, God told the devil that He would send two people in the future to do battle with him and his bad angels (demons). Those two people would be a woman and her Son and they would defend us against the devil.

The woman would be **God’s Blessed Mother Mary** and her Son would be **Jesus**.

What do you know about Jesus? _____

What do you know about Mary, the Blessed Mother of Jesus? _____

Adam and Eve disobeyed God and because of it, they committed the first sin of God's people. It is called **Original Sin**, the sin that will be removed from your soul in **Baptism**.

Now Adam and Eve did not die at the time they ate the fruit from the **Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil** but they did die later on in their life. God was right and Satan had lied to them.

God kicked Adam and Eve out of the **Garden of Eden** and closed this **Paradise** forever. However, since God loves us so much, He gave us a **NEW Paradise, Heaven**, later to be open by His Son, Jesus.



Because Adam and Eve sinned and God loves us so much, God had to help us to be friends with Him again. To do this, God would send His Son Jesus to live with us. But God would do this much later in history.

Until God sent Jesus to us, God's people made so many bad choices that God decided to flood the Earth and start all over again.

God told a very old man named **Noah** to build a big boat called an **Ark** and put two of every animal and bird in the Ark along with his family.



After God flooded the Earth, He gave us the **Rainbow** to remind us that He would never flood the Earth again.



Have you ever seen a rainbow and, if so, what did you see? _____

God is holy and good. He put us here on Earth so that we can be holy and good and for us to take care of each other.

We are **holy** when we pray to God before we go to bed and before we eat something, when we thank God for our family and the stuff that we have, and when we go to Church on Sundays.

We are **good** when we love our family and friends and even people we don't like, and when we treat them with honor, respect and love.

How can you treat people with honor, respect and love? _____

God tells us that people who are holy and good when they die will be in Heaven with Him, His Son Jesus and His Mother Mary forever.

What do you know about Heaven? _____

Heaven is more beautiful than any mountain, lake or sunset on Earth. In Heaven, there are angels and very holy and good people. The angels fly around like beautiful butterflies. There is no pain or suffering in Heaven, just peace and love.

What good things can you do?

But some people chose not to be good. God tells us that people who are evil when they die, instead of going to beautiful Heaven, they will go to **hell**, a place of fire and ugliness where there is nothing but pain and suffering. There is no peace or love in hell and hell is forever.

What evil (bad) things can people do?

Closing Prayer: The Hail Mary Prayer

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed art thou, among woman, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and the hour of our death. Amen.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Opening Prayer: The Glory Be Prayer

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

When God made you, He made you in His **Image and Likeness**.

When we think of an image, we think of something we can see like a picture or a statue. But **God is a Spirit and He has no body**.

To say you are created in **God's Image and Likeness** is to say that you are **smart, emotional, spiritual**, and have **free will** to choose right from wrong.

To be **smart** means you know right from wrong. Take a short quick quiz:

✠ Is stealing Right or Wrong? _____

✠ Is sharing your lunch with another kid who is hungry Right or Wrong? _____

✠ Is not listening to your parents Right or Wrong? _____

✠ Is fighting with you brother or sister Right or Wrong? _____

To be **emotional** is to be able to show **how you feel like angry (being mad), sad, happy and joyful**.

Have you ever cried? _____

Crying is showing **emotion**.

Write about one time when you were really happy. _____

To be **spiritual** means that you have a connection with the one who gave you life—**GOD**.

To be made in **God's Image and Likeness** also means **you are made to love each other like God loves you**.

You also have **free will**, or freedom to choose, to freely make choices like to steal or not to steal, hate or not to hate, to love or not to love, to forgive or not to forgive.

How do you show love to family and friends? Any ideas? _____

Closing Prayer: The Glory Be Prayer

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Opening Prayer: The Lord's Prayer

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those, who trespass against us. And lead us not, into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Knowing What Is Right and What Is Wrong

God, gave us **Ten Commandments**, or laws, to help us make choices every day.

God tells us that in order for us to stay friends with Him and to be holy and good, these Ten Commandments are how you are to live your life with others and how to behave.

The first Three Commandments that God gives us is about your relationship with Him.

Commandment # 1. I am the LORD your God. You shall have no false gods before Me.

- ✠ Make God number one in your life. Stay away from anything that draws you away from your relationship with God (Sports, video games, TV.....).

Commandment # 2. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.

- ✠ Only use God's name in honor, never as bad language. Don't talk bad about God.

Commandment # 3. Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day.

- ✠ Go to Mass on Sundays and Holy Days.

The next Seven Commandments that God gives us are about your relationship with everyone (family and friends).

Commandment # 4. Honor your father and your mother.

- ✠ Respect, honor and obey (listen) your parents, teachers and police.
- ✠ No talking back.

Commandment # 5. You shall not kill.

- ✠ Don't hurt or kill anything.
- ✠ Don't talk about someone or gossip or start rumors about someone.
- ✠ Don't bully or pick on someone.

Commandment # 6. You shall not commit adultery.

- ✠ Honor and respect people and yourself.

Commandment # 7. You shall not steal.

- ✠ Don't take something from someone else without asking.
- ✠ Don't cheat on homework or tests.

Commandment # 8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

- ✠ Don't tell lies.
- ✠ Don't break promises.

Commandment # 9. You shall not covet (want with evil intent) thy neighbor's wife.

- ✠ Again, honor and respect people and yourself.

Opening Prayer: The Glory Be Prayer

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Jesus was born on the day we celebrate as **CHRISTmas**.

What date do we celebrate the Birth of Jesus? _____

What is the date of your birthday? _____

What presents did you receive this past Christmas? _____

Did you make or buy a present for your mom and dad? If so, what was it? _____

Did you make or buy a present for your brother(s) or sister(s), and if so, what where the gifts? _____

God’s **CHRISTmas** gift to us is His Son **Jesus CHRIST**.

Do you remember what God told Adam and Eve after they ate the fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil?

God said He would send a mother and a Son to make Him and us friends again. And that person would do battle with satan and his bad angels, demons.

The Son is God’s Son Jesus Christ.

As you read earlier, **Jesus’ Mother is Blessed Mother Mary**. His “foster father” is Joseph.

Write something about your mom.

Write something about your dad.

While Jesus was alive, He learned how to obey His parents. **Obey means to “listen to”**.

Do you always obey your parents? _____

When have you not obeyed to your parents? _____

Jesus said that He is the way, the path, to God and to Heaven. This is why you should always follow Jesus in life.

Jesus tells us how much God loves us and even when we do something bad, He still loves us. Remember, all we have to do is to be sorry and ask for His forgiveness for what we did and He will forgive us and we are friends with Him again.

Jesus tells us that He is God’s Son.

Jesus also tells us that if we want to be with Him and God and His Mother Mary in Heaven when we die, we must be Baptized. This is why you are preparing to be Baptized.

Do you have date that you will be Baptized, and if so, what is that date? _____

Closing Prayer: The Glory Be Prayer

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



- ✚ You become a Temple of the Holy Spirit.
- ✚ You become a part of Jesus in a special way; a part of His Life.



Opening Prayer: The Lord’s Prayer

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those, who trespass against us. And lead us not, into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

You will be Baptized “In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” The Father is God and the Son is Jesus.

WHAT WILL CHANGE IN YOU AS A RESULT OF BAPTISM

- ✚ The Original Sin of Adam is removed from your Soul.
- ✚ You become an adopted daughter or son of God; a child of God.
- ✚ You become an heir to the Kingdom of Heaven.
- ✚ You are given the mission to Love and to be Kind to one another as Jesus loves you.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN DURING YOUR BAPTISM

Your Godparents

When you go to the Church to be baptized, you will be with your parents and **godparents**. Your godparents, or **padrinos**, will be one or two people that will help you in your journey through life to get to Heaven.

Who will be your godfather, or nino?

Write something about your nino?

Who will be your godmother, or nina?

Write something about your nina?

We will use water in your Baptism. Why water?

Do you drink a lot of water every day?

What do think will happen to you if you don't drink water?

You could live for weeks without food but only a few days without water. Water is the main element that makes up our body.

But water can remind us of death as well (flooding and drowning). **Stay away from swimming pools unless you are with an adult.**

In **Baptism**, all the bad things that you might have done in your life so far are washed away.

During your Baptism, the minister will pour water on your head three times while saying "I Baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit".

WHITE GARMENT, ANOINTING, AND LIGHTED CANDLE

At your Baptism, you will be **wearing something white**. The white symbolizes that you are being clothed in Jesus, who is pure.

Just as you put on clothes in the morning to go to school or go out and play, when you wear white at your Baptism, you are putting on Jesus so that you can go out and be like Jesus. To love others and forgive people who hurt you.

Do you remember a time when a friend said something mean to you or treated you badly? What was it?

Did you forgive them for hurting you?

Your family will also be providing a **candle** to signify the Light of Jesus and that **YOU are the Light of Jesus to others**.

Think of entering a dark room. Without any light, it would be pretty scary. You could trip and fall and hurt yourself pretty badly.

Or how about a very dark night with a full moon. That full moon, very white, sticks out from the darkness around it.

Jesus said, "I am the Light of the World".

Your candle, when lit, is like Jesus. Jesus shines in the darkness of the world. Jesus will be the light that guides you through your life when you feel lonely.

Have you ever felt lonely?

Are you willing to let Jesus help you when you are lonely?

Closing Prayer: The Hail Mary Prayer

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed art thou, among woman, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and the hour of our death. Amen.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

When we enter a Church or when we say a prayer, we bless ourselves with the **Sign of the Cross** and sometimes with **Holy Water**.

This reminds us of our Baptism. On that day, we become a child of God, a member of the Body of Jesus and a member of Jesus' Church on Earth – the Catholic Church.

There are other times when we should also say prayers such as when we get up in the morning, at breakfast, lunch and dinner, and at bed time.

MAKING THE SIGN OF THE CROSS (5 STEPS)

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

- (1) Using your right hand, touch your forehead and at the same time say, "*In the Name of the Father*";
- (2) then moving your hand to the lower middle of your chest (just above stomach) and at the same time say, "*And of the Son*";
- (3) next move your hand to your left shoulder and at the same time say, "*Holy*";
- (4) then move your hand across your chest to your right shoulder and at the same time say, "*Spirit*"; and finally
- (5) bringing your left and right hands together and at the same time say, "*Amen.*"

The Sign of the Cross is the way Catholics begin prayers and begin and end the Mass.

We also end most prayers by saying "**Amen**", which means, "Yes I believe."

THE OUR FATHER (THE LORD'S PRAYER)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

THE HAIL MARY Prayer

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

THE GLORY BE Prayer

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

A PRAYER IN THE MORNING

You should say a prayer in the morning thanking God for waking you up that day and to ask Him for you to have a good day. Here is a suggested prayer:

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Thank you, dear Lord, for waking me up today so that can love, learn, and have fun today. Help me to make good choices today and to share the things that you have given me with people around me that are less fortunate than I am. Protect my family and me from the evil one today. Amen.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

A PRAYER, GRACE, AT BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER (SUPPER)

You should say a prayer before eating breakfast, lunch and dinner, thanking God for food to eat. Here are two suggested prayers:

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

God is great, God is good. Let us thank Him for our food. Amen.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

OR

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

A PRAYER AT BED TIME

You should say a prayer at bedtime thanking God for the day that you had, and asking God for forgiveness for the things you might have done to hurt Him, others or yourself. Here are two suggested prayers:

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Protect my family and me, Lord, as we stay awake; watch over us as we sleep; that awake, we may keep watch with Christ, and asleep, rest in his peace. Amen.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

OR

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep. Please angels watch me through the night, and wake me with the morning light. And If I die before I wake, I pray to God my soul to take. If I should live for another day, I pray the Lord to guide my ways. Amen.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

OR

You can just speak to Jesus from your heart whatever you want to say and then say an Our Father, a Hail Mary Prayer and a Glory Be Prayer. Remember to make the **Sign of the Cross** before you start and after you finish.

A PRAYER FOR WHEN YOU LOSE A PET

Gentle St. Francis, I love my pet, _____. You know how I feel because you love animals, too. My pet died. I am so sad. I miss my pet very much. Please watch over my pet in heaven. May God bless and take care of all animals. Amen.

MEMORIZING PRAYERS BEFORE YOU ARE BAPTIZED

Before you are Baptized, you will need to memorize the Sign of the Cross and the Our Father. If you say all four prayers every night, it won't take long for you to know these prayers without having to read them.

SIGNS OF OUR BELONGING TO GOD

Some signs that draw you closer to God and make you holy are:

- ✠ The Sign of the Cross.
- ✠ Saying Prayers.
- ✠ Using Holy Water.

