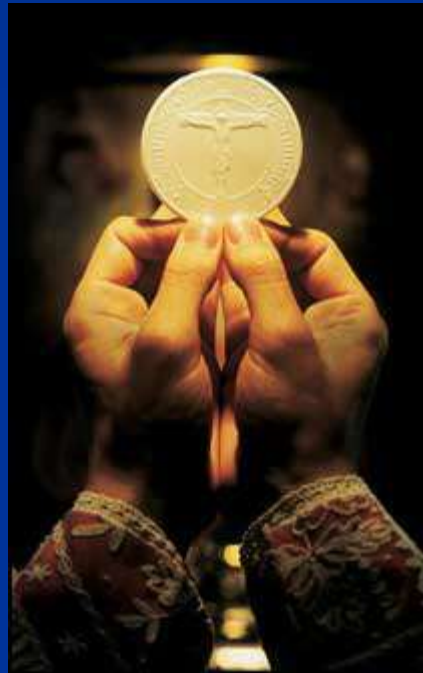


# **The Sacraments: Baptism & Confirmation**

**St. Monica RCIA  
November 27, 2017**

# **PART I: The Role of the Sacraments in Salvation**



Several speakers in last week's video used this expression to explain the condition our souls need to be in in order to go to heaven:

“Friendship with God”

**What kind of grace do we have in our souls when we are in a state of friendship with God?**

Sanctifying grace

When we are created, we do not have this kind of grace in our souls. **How do we describe the condition of our souls when God creates us?**

The state of original sin.



# What is the Catechism definition of original sin?

A deprivation of original holiness and justice in every human soul upon its creation.

As Catholics we believe that we are healed of sin and receive the gift of divine grace principally through the sacraments.

**What is a sacrament?**

- (1) An outward sign**
- (2) Instituted by Christ**
- (3) Entrusted to the Church**
- (4) To give grace.**



# What are the seven sacraments?

1. Baptism
2. Confirmation
3. Holy Eucharist
4. Reconciliation (Confession, Penance)
5. Anointing of the Sick
6. Matrimony
7. Holy Orders

**How do we receive the gift of  
sanctifying grace for the very first  
time?**

**By receiving the sacrament of Baptism.**

# What are 3 principal effects of Baptism?

1. Infuses the gift of sanctifying grace.
2. Heals the soul of original sin and all actual sins.
3. Initiates the baptized into the Church (the Body of Christ)

However, Baptism does not eliminate our inclination to commit actual sins that is the lingering aftereffect of original sin.  
**What do we call that inclination?**

Concupiscence

And so even after Baptism we retain free will to choose or reject God, hindered by concupiscence and aided by God's grace.

**What kind of sin destroys sanctifying grace in the soul and puts us in danger of going to hell?**

**Mortal sin.**

A sin is any deliberate thought, word, deed, or omission contrary to the eternal law of God. **What additional elements must be present to make a sin a mortal sin?**

- 1. Grave matter (seriously wrong)**
- 2. Full knowledge**
- 3. Deliberate consent**

What do we call a sin that is missing one or more elements of mortal sin?

Venial sin.





How does a person escape the state of mortal sin and regain the gift of sanctifying grace?

Ordinarily, by repenting and receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation.

# In Summary

Original Sin



Baptism/Sanctifying Grace



Death



Purgatory/Heaven



Original Sin



Baptism/Sanctifying Grace



Mortal Sin



Repentance and Confession



Death



Purgatory/Heaven

# PART II: Baptism & Confirmation



# Every sacrament has three essential components:

1. Matter
2. Form
3. Minister

# What are the three essential components for Baptism?

1. The matter is WATER.
2. The form is, “[Name], I baptize you in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.”
3. The ordinary minister is a Catholic clergyman.



## Refresher: List three principal effects of Baptism.

1. Infuses the gift of sanctifying grace.
2. Heals the soul of original sin and all actual sins.
3. Initiates the baptized into the Church (the Body of Christ)

# Why do we practice Baptism, Scripturally speaking?



courtesy of [www.giottodibondone.org](http://www.giottodibondone.org)





**Is Baptism necessary for  
salvation?**

*Yes!*

# What are the three kinds of Baptism?

1. Baptism of water and the Spirit
2. Baptism of blood
3. Baptism by desire

# More about Baptism

Can Baptism be repeated?

No

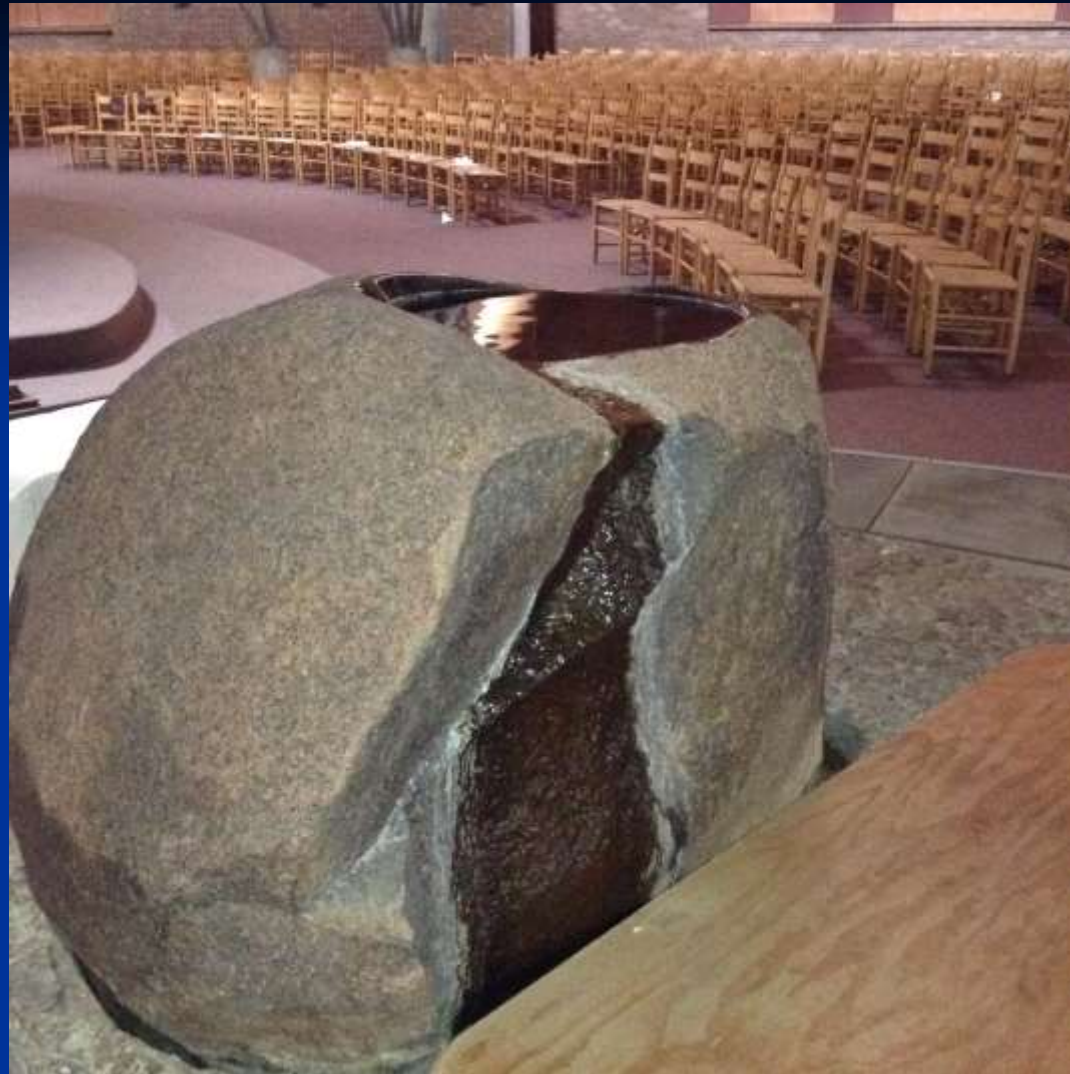
Why does the Church practice infant baptism?

- Scriptural evidence
- Testimony of Church Fathers



**St. Vincent de Paul – Rogers, AR**





**Prince of Peace, Plano TX**



# Baptismal Fonts

What are two traditional shapes for baptismal fonts?

One is a womb.



**St. Joseph – Arlington TX**

# Baptismal Fonts

There are two traditional shapes for baptismal fonts.

The other traditional shape is . . .



**St. Joseph – Richardson, TX**

# The Symbols of Baptism



# The Symbols of Baptism

Children

## Simplicity





# The Symbols of Baptism



The importance of the Baptismal name.

By a long-standing tradition, it is customary to give an infant a saint's name.

Canon Law: “Parents, sponsors, and the pastor should take care that a name foreign to Christian sensibility is not given.”

Who is the ordinary minister of Baptism?

A member of the ordained clergy.

What is the exception?

In case of emergency, anyone can baptize. Even a nonchristian.

# Godparents!

What is the role of a godparent?

To help the newly baptized live a good Catholic Christian life.

# Godparents!

What are the requirements to be eligible to be a godparent?

- You cannot also be the baptized person's actual parent.
- You must intend to perform the function of a godparent.
- You must be at least 16.
- You must have received all three sacraments of initiation.
- You must be living a life consistent with the role.

# Godparents!

Can a non-Catholic serve as a godparent?

Unfortunately, it is not permitted. If you have one Catholic godparent, however, you can have a non-Catholic participate in the Baptism as a “Christian witness.”

# Godparent Traditions



# Practical Considerations

When getting your baby baptized or serving as a godparent.



# Confirmation

# What are the three essential components for Confirmation?

1. The matter is SACRED CHRISM (oil).
2. The form is, “[Name], be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.” R: “Amen.”
3. The ordinary minister is a Catholic bishop, but the authority to confirm is commonly delegated to priests for the Easter Vigil.

# The Symbol of Confirmation



## Why do we celebrate Confirmation as a sacrament?

From Pentecost on, the apostles laid hands on the newly baptized so that they too could receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, which completed the grace of Baptism. (CCC 1288).



When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the Word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there and prayed for them to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he did not come down on any of them: they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **Then they laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.** (Acts 8:14-17).

Early Church: Confirmation was part of Baptism.

When Christianity became legal, the bishops could not baptize all the new Christians so they commissioned the priests to baptize. The bishops would come on a later date and “confirm” the Baptism (CCC 1290).

Confirmation is important because it showed that the new Christians were in communion with the Bishop.

A person being confirmed needs a Confirmation sponsor. Who can and should serve as a Confirmation sponsor?

The same eligibility requirements apply to godparents and Confirmation sponsors.

The Church recommends that one of the person's godparents should be the person's Confirmation sponsor whenever possible.

A person being confirmed chooses he or her own Confirmation name. How does one go about choosing a Confirmation name?

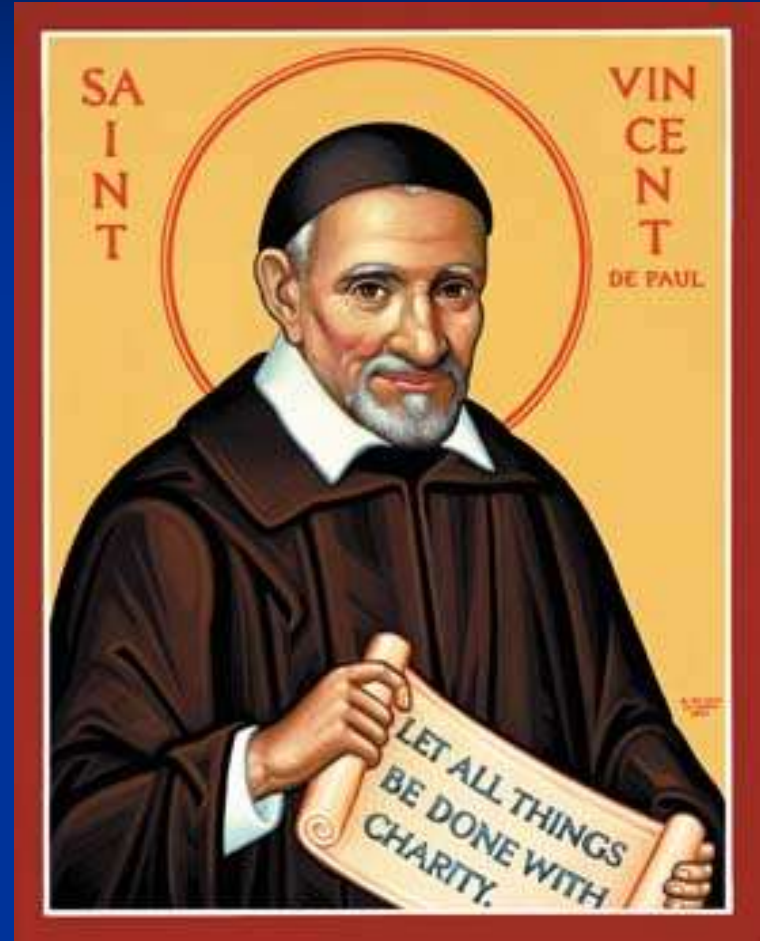
It needs to be the name of a canonized saint or at least someone who has been declared “blessed,” just one step short of canonization.

Beyond that, we suggest choosing someone whom you admire or can identify with.

It can be your “given” Baptismal name, and it doesn’t have to match your sex.



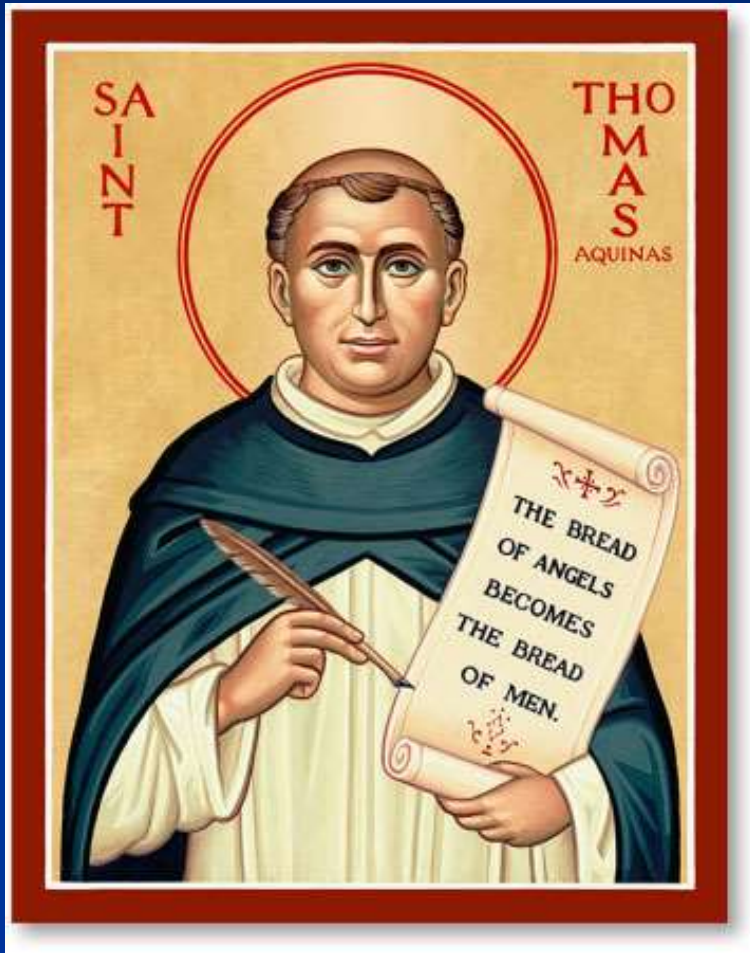
# Charity



# Courage



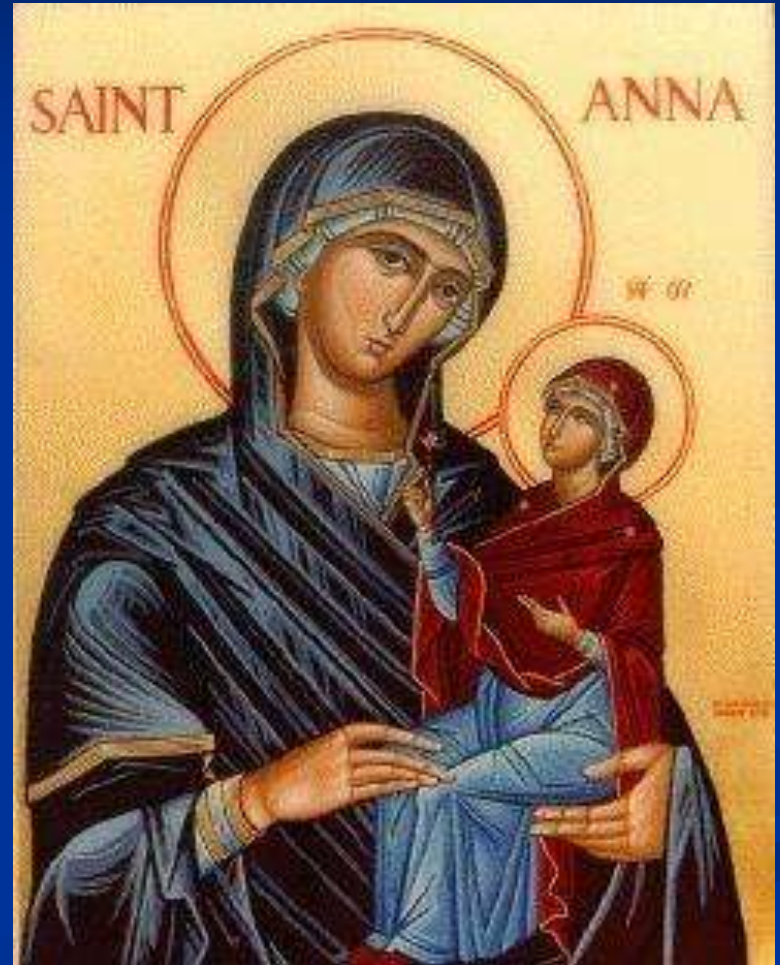
# Wisdom



# Leadership



# Status



# Occupation



# More on Confirmation

Can Confirmation be repeated?

No.

# More on Confirmation

What are the effects of Confirmation?

1. We receive a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
2. We are united more firmly to Christ and the Church.
3. We become “soldiers of Christ.”
4. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are increased.



# What are the Gifts of the Holy Spirit?

1. Wisdom
2. Understanding
3. Knowledge
4. Counsel
5. Piety
6. Fortitude
7. Fear of the Lord

# Any Questions?

