



the Parish of St. Dunstan

A CHILDREN'S CATECHISM TO ECHO GOD'S LOVE IN THE WORLD

PART II: Our Church

Lesson 22: Holy Baptism

This is the prayer we use to begin our church service:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

I wonder what **Baptism** is.

1. Baptism wakes us up



When we are baptised, it is like God splashes our face with water and says, "**Wake up!**".

When people are born, it is like they are asleep. They do not know that God made the world and invites us to be **friends and helpers** of it like Jesus.

When we are baptised, we join Jesus' followers and become **friends and helpers** to the hungry, the lonely, the thirsty, the sick, the lost and the homeless.



Activity: Color the picture of this child becoming Jesus' follower.

2 Baptism is about saying no and yes

When we follow Jesus, we are saying “yes” to God’s way and “no” to the asleep way.

	God’s Way	Asleep Way		
kindness	ignoring	healing	welcoming	
war	gentleness	helping	patience	hate
love	peace	hoarding	joy	forgiveness
slavery		racism	bullying	

Activity: draw a line from each word to the WAY it belongs.

3 When we are baptised, we become light

We sleep when it is night. When we are awake it is **day**. When we are baptised, we wake up and live in the **light** of God. God’s **light** is so big that we become like it. We **shine** as **bright** as God.

This is why we receive a **candle** at baptism.

The priest says, Receive the light of Christ, to show that you have passed from darkness to light.

When all the newly baptized have received candles, the people say,

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.



Activity: Color the picture of the baptismal candle.