

St. Aloysius Religious Education 2017-2018

1st Grade

- 4:00pm Welcome (Baptism coloring page and *to ensure accuracy, class attendance must be accurately recorded by a catechist and not another student - class attendance is an official document retained by the parish and the diocese*)
- 4:05pm We Gather - in Prayer at the prayer table
(*use colored table covering for appropriate liturgical season*)
Use the Gospel Reading “Hearing the Word” from the previous Sunday in Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families book in the prayer box
- 4:10pm Story time at the Prayer Table – a prime time to share our faith teaching children the Word of God. Read aloud the true story of God's amazing love for us in “*Catholic Book of Bible Stories*” written in reverent tone just for young children. Start at the beginning with “*God’s Wonderful Creation*” read a new story each week and use *God’s Blessing* to end the story.
- 4:15pm Review previous lesson using one of the pages from the Activity Book.
- 4:20pm **Chapter #24 “God Gives You His Life”**

A sacrament is a sign given to us by Jesus through which we share in God’s life. Through the seven Sacraments we celebrate God’s love with us in Christ, our Lord and Savior. In Baptism, we receive God’s life and love (grace) and become initiated members of the Church and faith community. Through the story of Adam and Eve (*you can read the story from Tomie dePaola’s Book of Bible Stories*), we learn that our ancestors chose by their own free will to disobey God, and thus sin entered the world. We are given the chance to live free from sin in the Sacrament of Baptism. **Baptism washes away sin, restoring us as children of God, a spiritual rebirth. Eucharist is also a Greek word for ‘thanksgiving,’ so **the Mass is a great celebration of thanksgiving --- is the perfect prayer to God.****

- *We Believe -*

Sacrament = a sign we can see, made by Christ to give Grace. The seven sacraments are actions of Christ that make us holy.

Baptism = a sacrament in which we become children of God and members of the Church.

Grace = a gift of God by which our soul shares in the life of God and gives light to our mind and strength to our will.

- *We Respond –* make Baptism symbols craft

Explain the different symbols, colors and what they mean (*see below*). Have the children cut out the water symbol on blue construction paper, vessel of holy oil on yellow construction paper, the garment on white construction paper and the candle on orange construction paper. Affix all the symbols with a glue stick to a sheet of green paper, **please have the children write their first and last name and the year on the bottom of the green sheet (part 1 this week).**

- 4:55pm Closing Prayer – *Have all the children dip their fingers into the holy water and repeat the following as they touch that body part:*

“God bless my head;
God bless my lips;
God bless my heart. Amen”

Ask the children to say a petition aloud for someone or something they would like to pray for.

Have the children take home **(or email it to the parents)** the piece of paper with the shell on it and have their parents complete it with them and bring to class next week, so it can be affixed to the Baptism symbols craft **(part 2 following week if they did not bring in an emailed copy).**

“What is a symbol of Baptism?”

Baptism symbols:

Water – (blue for the water)

Water, which gives and well as takes life is a symbol of both life and death. When we are baptized into the death of Jesus, we die with him upon the cross. When Jesus dies so does all sin and death. Our baptism does not end in death but continues with life. As Jesus is raised from the dead by the Father and given new life, so are we through the waters of baptism, raised to life in Jesus Christ. The waters of Baptism wash away Original Sin and make us a new creation in Christ.

Paschal candle - (orange for the flame)

The Light of Christ is passed on to us in the form of a lit candle, which was lit from the Paschal Candle that was blessed at the Easter Vigil. We are called to be the light of Christ in the world and we are asked to keep that light burning brightly.

Holy Oil - (yellow for the oil)

Chrism is a perfumed olive oil consecrated by the bishop during Holy Week. This oil is used to anoint the crown of the head of the person being baptized. In ancient times men and women were anointed to be proclaimers of God's message to the world. We are anointed to bring the good news to others by the way that we live our lives. We are anointed priest, prophet and king just as Christ was.

White Garment – (white for faith, hope, purity and new life)

Once we have been claimed for Christ through the water of life we are clothed in a white garment. This white garment, the Church, tells us is an outward sign of our Christian dignity. Once we have put on Christ, we are to always walk as His followers.

Scallop shell - the seashell, especially the scallop shell, is the symbol of Baptism, and is found frequently on Baptismal fonts. The dish used by priests to pour water over the heads of catechumens in Baptism is often scallop-shaped. The scallop, too, is a symbol for the Apostle James the Greater.

Many of these symbols, water, a white garment, and candle are used once again at the time of our burial. The casket is sprinkled with holy water, reminding us that we were baptized into Jesus death and resurrection. The white garment, the pall, is placed over the casket, symbolizing that we put on Christ here on earth and will be embraced by Christ through death. The Paschal Candle burns brightly at the head of the casket as a sign that Christ has shattered the darkness of sin and death.

I became a member of God's family at Baptism.

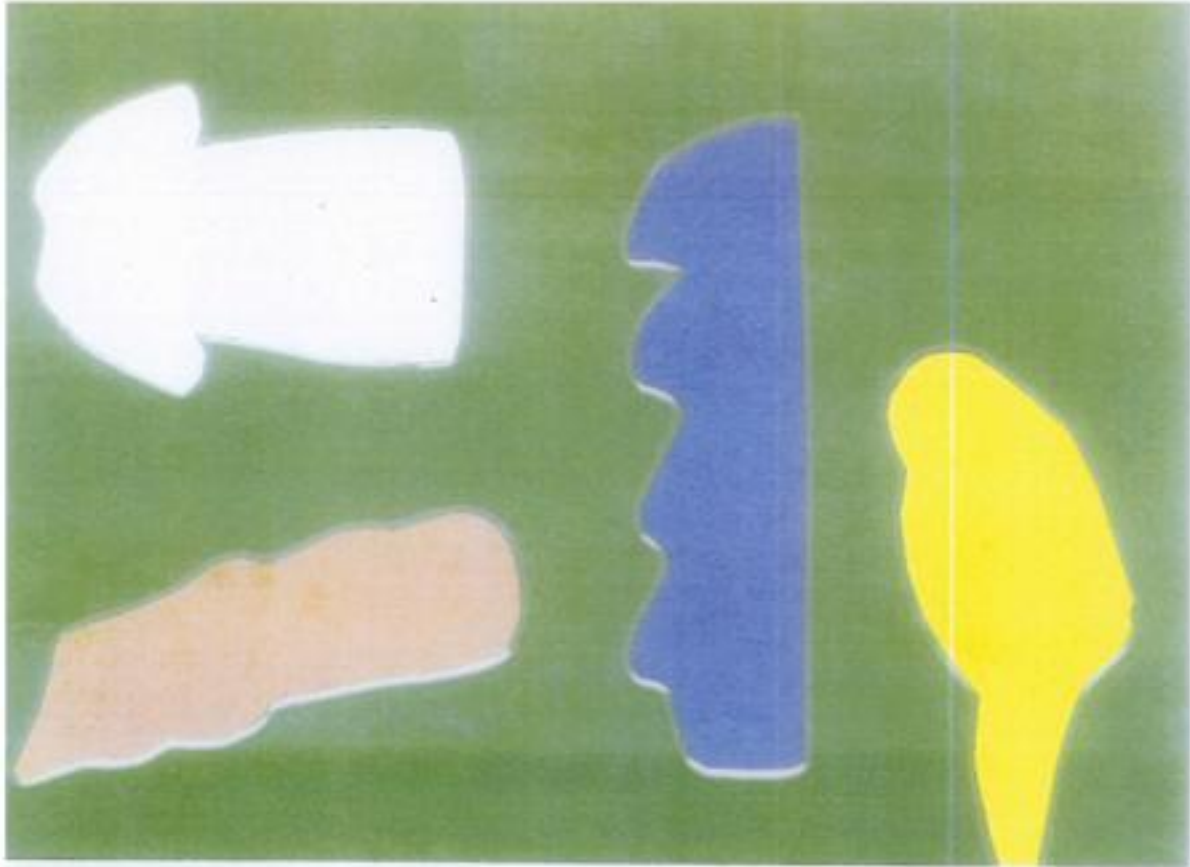
My Baptismal name is: _____

I received my Baptism on: _____

The church where I was Baptized was: _____

My Godparents are: _____

The priest/deacon who baptized me was: _____



I become a member of God's family at Baptism.

My Baptismal name is: EDWINA GONZAGA

I received my Baptism on: JAN. 1, 2010

The church where I was Baptized was: ST. ALOYSIUS

My Godparents are: MARIE PASCALE + STEVE POND

The priest/deacon who baptized me was: FR. IAN JEREMIAH

MPLE

Property of
St. Aloysius Religious Education
at Holy Cross
New Canaan, CT 06840
Please return after each use.