

St. Aloysius Religious Education 2017-2018
5th Grade

4:00pm Welcome (*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

Ask the children to share what they learned from their parents about their baptism.

1. When were you baptized (the date)?
2. Where were you baptized (the church)?
3. How old were you when you were baptized?
4. Who performed your baptism?
5. Who are your godparents?
6. Do you have the candle or white cloth from your baptism?

4:10pm Review previous lesson using Sharing Faith (*chapter test in student book*)

4:15pm **Chapter #5 “The Celebration of Baptism”**

With the renewal of Vatican II, the Church restored an ancient process of initiation through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). The participation of the whole Church community is important to the process of welcoming others into the Church. RCIA includes a period of receiving people who are inquiring about the faith; a period of formation that includes prayer and liturgy, instruction and service called the *catechumenate*; a period of intense preparation and prayer during Lent; the celebration of the sacraments usually at the parish Easter Vigil; and a period of reflection upon the mysteries and living out the Christian mission, called *mystagogy*. **The newly baptized are a sign of new life and hope for the Church and parish community!**

- *We Believe -*

Catechumenate = a period of formation for Christian initiation that includes prayer and liturgy, religious instruction, and service to others.

Sacred Chrism = perfumed oil blessed by the Bishop.

- *We Respond – “Reenact”* the rite of baptism (*see attached, RE will bring a “baptism bag of props”*)

The Christian ritual of Baptism is based on the example of Saint John the Baptist and follows the instructions set forth by Jesus Christ and Saint Paul in the New Testament. Catechists – or the class as a group - select a name for the baby (doll), a mother and a father, a godmother and a godfather and a priest/deacon! The narthex should be close to the door in your classroom, the font should be in the center of the room.

4:55pm Closing Prayer –

“Lord Jesus Christ,
hear our prayers,
and with Your unfailing protection,
watch over and cherish this child,
whom You have blessed
with the grace of Baptism.

Send Your Spirit upon this child
and fill him (or her) with peace,
joy, and the strength
to do Your Will.
We ask this in the name
of the Father,
the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.”

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

“What do you know about your Baptism – or remember from a relative or friends Baptism?”

Each Baptism bag (please return everything to Religious Education) contains:

Baby doll

Clear “font”

Shell

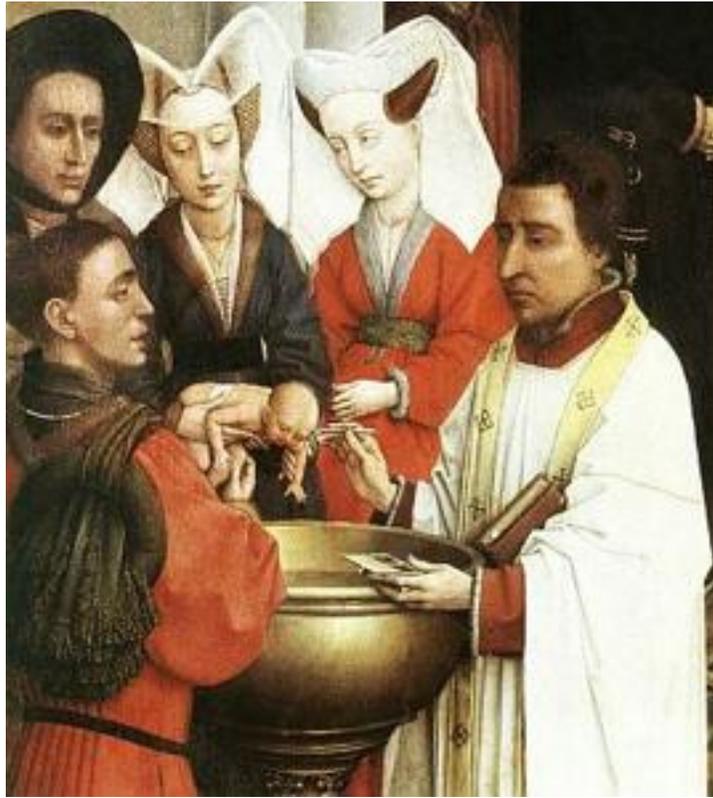
Oil of “catechumens”

Oil of “chrism”

Holy water

White garment

Baptismal candle



St. Aloysius Religious Education Background on Rite of Baptism

Christ works through Sacraments! Sacraments are outward signs expressing some inward reality. But they are not just signs. They actually do something. They make the person on whom they are conferred a different kind of person. The link between God and men had been broken by sin. Christ repaired that link. But Christ died nearly two thousand years ago, long before we were born. How does He continue His work in us? He continues it through His Church. In His lifetime He worked through the human nature which He had taken. After His death and ascension into heaven He works through the Church that He founded. In His lifetime He worked through His hands, His tongue, His eyes, etc. Now He works by means of the seven Sacraments which His Church administers to us. Through these Christ as Head of the Church communicates to us His life and His Holy Spirit, and joins us to the Blessed Trinity. Baptism was instituted, very probably, about the time Our Lord was baptized by St. John, and its reception was commanded when after His resurrection Our Lord said to His Apostles: "All power is given to Me in heaven and in earth. Going, therefore, teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The word 'Baptism' comes from a Greek word that means to 'plunge' or 'immerse'. To 'plunge' someone in water represents the person dying, being buried and resurrecting with Christ as a 'new creature.' (ccc 1214) Some call this Sacrament 'the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit' because Baptism results in a new birth of water and the Spirit. Without it, no one can enter the Kingdom of God. [Jn. 3:5] (ccc 1215)

The Sacrament of Baptism is the most beautiful thing that happens in someone's life. When someone is baptized, it means that God the Father, the Son -Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, give the Christian many very special gifts. To be baptized in the Catholic Church means more than being sprinkled with water on one's head and receiving a Christian name. Baptism by making us children of God guarantees that we will always have God's help for everything we need to live as a son of God.

What are the effects of Baptism? What does Baptism do? Baptism: **remits all sins** (both original sin and personal sin) and their temporal punishments. If one were to die immediately after Baptism, he would go straight to Heaven (assuming one presents no obstacles), **imprints an indelible mark on the soul of the baptized which marks him as God's** initiates him into the life of the Church, and allows him to receive the other Sacraments. It is through Baptism that we are born again -- regenerated -- of water and Spirit and receive new life, **infuses sanctifying grace, supernatural gifts, and virtues** (according to the disposition of the soul receiving the Sacrament and providing he puts up no obstacles), making us true adopted children of God. Moreover in Baptism we receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity. How, one might ask, can a newborn baby who is baptized be said to have faith (belief in God), hope (trust in God) and charity (love of God and our neighbor)? The point is that these virtues are like new faculties. They make it possible for us to know, love and trust God. We cannot use them until they are developed. But unless we had them we would be incapable of believing, trusting and loving God as we should. In the same way a new-born child has intelligence and a free will. It cannot use them until it is sufficiently developed. But unless it had them it would never be able to know or to will anything.

There is only one Baptism; therefore the Sacrament may be received only once. For those who have reached the age of reason, the Sacrament must also be received in faith. If one does not have faith in Baptism but receives it anyway, he is still validly baptized, but the fruits of his Baptism will be delayed until he does have faith. In the case of infants, it is the faith of the parents that operates until the child himself reaches the age of reason. Of the seven Sacraments of the Catholic Church, three of them are Sacraments of Initiation to introduce a new convert into the Catholic Church. These are the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Holy Eucharist. (ccc 1212). The Sacrament of Baptism gives birth to the Christian's life of faith. (ccc 1210) A person can never receive any of the other Sacraments without first receiving baptism, because baptism makes us members of Christ's Church, and unless we are members of His Church we cannot receive His Sacraments.

The Effects of Original Sin

When Adam sinned by disobeying God, he called upon himself and all his descendants a spiritual and physical death." This means that the complete creation of every human being, as defined in 1 Thessalonians 5:23, would experience physical death (body) and spiritual death (soul/spirit) All would be condemned to die, to be eternally deprived of God's Divine Presence, because the sin of disobedience contaminated them.

When people are born, they are born in the image of Adam. [Gen. 5:3] This means that they are born with a body, a soul/spirit that has been contaminated by the original sin. As Adam died, they are called to experience physical and spiritual death.

The Sacraments are seven ordinary things with an extraordinary meaning and extraordinary effects. Seven natural things with a more than natural meaning, a more than natural effect, (the word we use for "more than natural" is "supernatural"), in short seven outward signs of inward grace. ***The Sacrament of Baptism changes all that! It erases all traces of the original sin and personal sins that were committed by the person prior to receiving the Sacrament. (ccc 1263)*** The Sacrament of Baptism gives the person a new life through Jesus. It brings the person back to God. But there is one thing that baptism does not change. That is the physical body of the person and its worldly inclinations towards sin! The body continues to be weak in nature, desiring to sin. Because of that, there is a constant spiritual and worldly battle within the person. (ccc 405)

Because of the greatness of the eternal gift that is received during the Sacrament of Baptism, the Church does not desire to see anyone die without receiving this Sacrament. (ccc 1250) The Church also realizes that the Sacrament of Baptism requires a Profession of faith, something that infants and younger children cannot profess.

In its spiritual wisdom, the Catholic Church made use of a gift that Jesus gave to the Church. Jesus said to Simon Peter, "I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in Heaven." [Mt. 16:19] This means that whatever the Church approved on earth by the grace of Jesus and the inspirations of the Holy Spirit for the glory of the Heavenly Father, Heaven will recognize it. Knowing that it had this power, the Catholic Church determined in its spiritual wisdom to baptize infants as soon as they were born. This would ensure that infants would also receive their new heart and spirit to guide them in life. This would be their guarantee of salvation as children of God should they die before reaching the age of reason. Because of this decision, the Church also realized that infants must be educated later on after their Baptism, this being a parental role. (ccc 1231)

The history of infant Baptism has been traced to the second century and could have also existed during the days of apostolic preaching when entire 'households' were baptized. (ccc 1252, 1282)

SYMBOLS OF BAPTISM – student handout

THE OIL OF CATECHUMENS

The oil of catechumens is the ointment of those preparing for baptism. It wards off what is evil. It brings wisdom and strength. Every year the bishop of your diocese blesses the oil of catechumens during the Mass of Chrism at the cathedral. This Mass takes place shortly before Easter because of an ancient tradition in the church. Near the beginning of the rite, we pray an "exorcism" for the children, a prayer that they be freed from original sin. Babies are then anointed on the chest with the oil of catechumens. However, the full meaning of the oil comes to light when those being anointed are adults preparing for baptism. In this case, all the prayers make more sense: We pray that the catechumens will have strength and wisdom to understand the Gospel and to accept the challenge of Christian living. This anointing leads them toward baptism.

THE SYMBOL OF WATER

Water is used during the Sacrament of Baptism because it is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. It shows the actions of the Holy Spirit during the rebirth of Baptism in God. (ccc 1213) From the believer's heart will flow rivers of living water. [Jn. 4:10; 7:38-9] *A priest/deacon pours water on the head of the one to be baptized saying at the same time these words: "I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"*. Washing with water is a perfectly ordinary thing. It cleanses stains. Our Lord takes that ordinary thing and says, in effect, when you wash with water in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit then that washing becomes a supernatural thing. It washes away the stain of original sin. Or you may look at it another way. It is as though we went down and were buried in the water and then rose again to a new life with Christ Our Lord just as He was buried and rose again after His death. During the ceremony of Baptism, the priest says a prayer of blessing, asking that the water within the baptismal basin be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. Touching the water with his right hand, he asks the Heavenly Father to send the Holy Spirit upon the water that will be used for the baptism of the child (or adult).

THE OIL OF CHRISM

The Sacred Chrism is perfumed oil that has been consecrated by the Bishop. (ccc 1241) When the Priest anoints the one to be baptized, he asks God to bless the believer with all the necessary graces to achieve a Christian life. The Word 'Christian' comes from the name of 'Christ' which means 'Anointed One'. The baptized person is admitted into the common priesthood of which Jesus is the High Priest.

THE WHITE GARMENT

The white garment represents putting on Christ. Announcing that the believer has become a new creature, having been clothed with Christ, the Priest places the white garment on the new Christian. He then proclaims that this garment is the outward sign of the believer's Christian dignity. In the case of infants, with the help of the parents, godparents and friend, by their words and examples, it is proclaimed that the newly baptized child be allowed to bring that dignity unstained into the Heavenly eternal life.

THE CANDLE

Taking the Easter candle, the priest says, "Receive the light of Christ. "Then, when an infant is involved, the father or the godfather lights the child's candle from the Easter candle. The priest tells the parents and godparents that they have been entrusted with this light so it will be kept burning brightly. Having been enlightened by Christ, the child is to always walk as a child of the light. The flame of faith which is in his heart is to be kept alive at all time so when the Lord comes, he will go out to meet Him with all the saints of the Heavenly Kingdom.

THE “REENACTMENT” CEREMONY OF THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Through the Sacrament of Baptism, the believer is born as a Christian, as another "Christ." Through this privilege, he enters a new and divine life - sharing in the life of God. Becoming a member of the spiritual Body of Christ, he now has the mind of Christ in his thoughts, words and actions.

There are two ways to enter the Church through Baptism:

Private Baptism:

An emergency, bare-essentials baptism which can be performed anywhere, by clergy or lay person -- who uses the proper matter and form and intends to do what the Church does when She baptizes. Because of that last condition, Baptism by heretics or apostates should always be followed by a Solemn Baptism. Baptism must only be administered to those who request it; Baptism must never, ever be against the will of the person to be baptized, or his parents' will if he is a child.

Solemn Baptism:

Baptism by a priest or deacon, who is the usual minister of Baptism, during the Rite of Baptism which includes ceremonies such as a formal renunciation of Satan and all his works, the use of water blessed at the Easter Vigil or Pentecost, an anointing with Chrism, etc. One may be solemnly baptized as an infant; or by preparing oneself through catechesis and being baptized by a priest at the Easter Vigil.

Catholic Parents

When infants are baptized, the Christian parents (*mother and father*) who have given birth to this newborn soul, a gift of God, have an obligation to nurture its new life in the light of God. (ccc 1251) It is the role of the mother and father to present the child to the Church for baptism.

Godparents

The godparents act as witnesses. There should, ideally, be *one male and one female* for this task, one must be a baptized Catholic who is in good standing with the Church and who's reached the age of sixteen. This is a very solemn obligation, not one to be entered into lightly. **Because Baptism is the Sacrament of faith, when godparents speak on behalf of infants, they are asked “what do they ask of God's Church?” To this question, they answer, "Faith". (ccc 1253)**

Catechumen or candidate

Persons who were being instructed and prepared for baptism, in the first ages of the Church, were called catechumens, and they are frequently mentioned in Church history. After Baptism, faith must grow within the child. The parents and godparents of newly baptized infants bear the main responsibility for their spiritual growth and the safeguarding of the grace that the infants receive during the Sacrament of Baptism. (ccc 1255). They are “spiritual guardians.”

Minister of Baptism

A priest or deacon is the ordinary minister of baptism; but in case of necessity anyone who has the use of reason may baptize.

Catechists:

1. **select a name for the baby (doll) --- you may want input from your class,**
2. **a mother and a father,**
3. **a godmother and a godfather**
4. **and a priest/deacon!**

The narthex should be close to the door in your classroom,

The Baptismal font should be in the center of the room.

Each Baptism bag has: baby doll, doily (under font), clear "font", shell, oil of "catechumens" and "chrism", white garment and baptismal candle – please return all to Religious Education.

Part I: In the Narthex of the Church (Admission into the Church Building):

The narthex should be close to the door in your classroom,

Baptism should take place on a Sunday and in the presence of the faithful.

The priest or deacon (wearing a colorful stole), sponsors (**parents** and **godparents**), and the catechumen (**baby doll** in mothers arms throughout the Sacrament) stand in the narthex of the church, symbolizing that at this point, the candidate is not a member of the Church.

The Questioning:

The name of a saint is given in Baptism in order that the person baptized may imitate his virtues and have him for a protector. The saint whose name we bear is called our patron saint -- to whom we should have great devotion.

**The priest or deacon asks the parents:
What name do you give your child?**

Parents respond.... Baby doll name,

**The priest or deacon asks the parents:
What do you ask of God's Church for your child?**

Parents respond.... Baptism

**The priest or deacon speaks to the parents:
You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him/her in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him/her up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and your neighbor. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?**

Parents respond.... We do.

The priest or deacon speaks to the godparents:

Are you ready to help the parents of this child in their duty as Christian parents?

God Parents respond.... We are.

The Sign of the Cross

The priest again makes the Sign of the Cross on the candidate's forehead

The Imposition of Hands

The priest places his hands on the candidate's head.

The priest or deacon speaks:

Baby doll name, the Christian community welcomes you with great joy. In its name I claim you for Christ our Savior by the sign of the cross. I now trace the cross on your forehead and invite your parents and godparents to do the same.

Priest or deacon says:

Almighty and ever-living God, you sent your only Son into the world to cast out the power of Satan, spirit of evil, to rescue man from the kingdom of darkness, and bring him into the splendor of your kingdom of light. We pray for this child: set him/her free from original sin, make him/her a temple of glory, and send your Holy Spirit to dwell with him/ her. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All present respond.... Amen.

The Anointing with Oil of Catechumens

Priest or deacon anoints the child on the chest with the oil of catechumens.

Priest or deacon says:

We anoint you with the oil of salvation in the name of Christ our Savior; may he strengthen you with his power, who lives and reigns forever and ever.

All present respond.... Amen.

Part III: At the Font:

Easter water, or baptismal water, is the water that is blessed on Holy Saturday (the day before Easter) and is used to baptize Catechumens. This water receives a more solemn sort of blessing than "regular holy water": the Easter Candle is dipped into it three times, and the priest blows his breath over it thrice, recalling the Spirit over the waters at Creation, and the Spirit causing the waters of Noah's flood to subside, and how the Spirit appeared as a dove over the waters at Christ's Baptism.

The priest or deacon speaks:

Dear brothers and sisters, we now ask God to give this child new life in abundance through water and the Holy Spirit.

The Renunciation of Satan,

In Baptism we promise to renounce the devil, with all his works and worldly pride, vanities and vain shows by which people are enticed into sin, and all foolish or sinful display of ourselves or of what we possess.

The priest or deacon speaks:

Dear parents and godparents, you have come here to present this child for baptism. By water and the Holy Spirit he/she is to receive the gift of new life from God, who is love. On your part, you must make it your constant care to bring him/her up in the practice of the faith. See that the divine life which God gives him/her is kept safe from the poison of sin, to grow always stronger in his/her heart. If your faith makes you ready to accept this responsibility, renew now the vows of your baptism. Reject sin; profess your faith in Christ Jesus. This is the faith of the Church. This is the faith in which this child is about to be baptized.

The priest or deacon speaks:

Do you reject Satan?

Parents respond.... I do.

Godparents respond.... I do.

The priest or deacon speaks:

And all his works?

Parents respond.... I do.

Godparents respond.... I do.

The priest or deacon speaks:

And all his empty promises?

Parents respond.... I do.

Godparents respond.... I do.

The Profession of Faith

The priest or deacon speaks:

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth?

Parents respond.... I do.

Godparents respond.... I do.

The priest or deacon speaks:

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

Parents respond.... I do.

Godparents respond.... I do.

The priest or deacon speaks:

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

Parents respond.... I do.

Godparents respond.... I do.

The priest or deacon speaks:

This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ALL present respond.... Amen.

Baptism

The priest removes his colorful stole and puts on a white one.

If the one to be baptized is a baby, the parents or godparents take him to the font (the mother holds him/ her in her arms, the father, godmother and godfather touches the baby's shoulder with their right hand).

The priest pours water over the head of the candidate three times, once after each mention of the Divine Persons. The water he uses will have been consecrated during the Easter Vigil or on the Eve of the Pentecost.

The priest or deacon speaks:

Is it your will that Baby doll name, should be baptized in the faith of the Church, which we have all professed with you?

Parents respond.... It is.

Godparents respond.... It is.

As he pours the water, the priest or deacon says these words:

I baptize you in the name of the Father + and of the Son + and of the Holy + Spirit.

The Anointing with Oil of Chrism

The priest or deacon anoints the candidate with the oil of chrism on the heart and between the shoulders in the form of a Cross, saying:

God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into his holy people. He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation. As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet and King, so may you live always as members of his body, sharing everlasting life.

All present respond.... Amen.

The White Linen Cloth

This priest or deacon takes a white linen cloth -- symbolizing the purity of a soul cleansed from all sin, and a relic of the days when the newly baptized wore white albs for 8 days -- and places it on the head of the candidate saying:

Baby doll name, you have become a new creation, and have clothed yourself in Christ. See in this white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity. With your family and friends to help you by word and example, bring that dignity unstained into everlasting life in heaven.

All present respond.... Amen.

The Lighted Candle

The priest or deacon goes to the Easter candle and lights a baptismal candle and gives the candidates father or godfather the lighted candle and says:

Parents and godparents, this light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. This child of yours has been enlightened by Christ. He/she is to walk always as a child of the light. May he/she keep the flame of faith alive in his/her heart. When the lord comes, may he/she go out to meet him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom.

The priest or deacon says:

You have put on Christ, in him be baptized. Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Lord's Prayer

The priest or deacon says:

Dearly beloved, this child has been reborn in baptism. He/she is now called the child of God, for so indeed he/she is. In confirmation he/she will receive the fullness of God's Spirit. In Holy Communion he/she will share the banquet of Christ Sacrifice, calling God his/her Father in the midst of the Church. In the name of this child, in the Spirit of our common sonship, let us pray together in the words our Father has given us:

ALL present respond.... by saying the Our Father.

**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 Last Words of Good Will

The priest or deacon blesses the mother (who holds the child in her arms) saying:

God the Father, through his Son, the Virgin Mary's child, has brought joy to all Christian mothers, as they see the hope of eternal life shine on their children. May he bless the mother of this child. She now thanks God for the gift of her child. May she be one with him/her in thanking him forever in heaven, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ALL present respond.... Amen.

The priest or deacon blesses the father saying:

God is the giver of all life, human and divine. May he bless the father of this child. He and his wife will be the first teachers of their child in the ways of the faith. May they be also the best teachers, bearing witness to the faith by what they say and do, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ALL present respond.... Amen.

The priest or deacon says:

By God's gift, through water and the Holy Spirit, we are reborn to everlasting life. In his goodness, may he continue to pour out his blessings upon these sons and daughters of his. May he make them always, wherever they may be, faithful members of his holy people. May he send his peace upon all who are gathered here, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ALL present respond.... Amen.

The priest or deacon says:

May almighty God, the Father, and the Son + and the Holy Spirit, bless you.

ALL present respond.... Amen.

The priest or deacon says:

Go in peace.

ALL present respond.... Thanks be to God.