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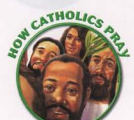
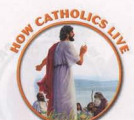
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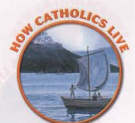
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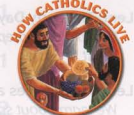
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# Baptism and Confirmation

UNIT

2

**B**aptism and Confirmation are Sacraments of Initiation. They welcome us into the Body of Christ, the Church. After Saint Paul received the Holy Spirit and was baptized, he went on to become one of the Church's greatest saints.

*God's Spirit, which is grace, encourages us  
to follow his teachings and laws.*

Based on Ezekiel 36:27

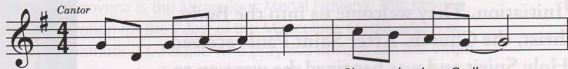


According to tradition, Saint Paul regained his sight on this street in Damascus. As the carving shows, he faced many dangers as he taught about Jesus.

# Who Calls You by Name

Words and Music by David Haas

## REFRAIN



Bless - ed be God! O Bless - ed be God!



Bless - ed be God! O Bless - ed be God!



Who calls you by name! Who calls you by name!



Ho - ly and cho - sen one!



Ho - ly and cho - sen one!

## VERSE

1. Come, and return to the Lord!  
Live by the Word of God,  
Who calls you by name!  
Who calls you by name!  
*Refrain*
2. Seek to be children of light!  
Live in the love of God,  
Who calls you by name!  
Who calls you by name!  
*Refrain*
3. Sing now with all your heart!  
Praise and glory be to our God,  
Who calls you by name!  
Who calls you by name!  
*Refrain*

# Take Home



## We Are Baptized into the Body of Christ

Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we become children of God and members of the Catholic Church. Baptism washes away original sin and fills our souls with God's grace. Through Baptism, we become part of the Body of Christ and no longer live for ourselves but for Christ and his Church.

### ACTIVITY

**IXΘΥΣ** The sign of a fish was a secret sign that early Christians used to identify themselves to one another. In Greek, the initials of the phrase *Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior*, spell out the word IXΘΥΣ (IHK thoos), which means "fish." Make a fish symbol to identify yourself as a Christian.



### WEEKLY PLANNER

#### On Sunday

Make the Sign of the Cross with holy water to remember your Baptism.

#### On the Web

[www.blestarewe.com](http://www.blestarewe.com)



Visit our Web site for the saint of the day and the reflection question of the week.

#### Saint of the Week



**Saint Maximilian Kolbe**  
(1894–1941)

During World War II, Father Kolbe, a Polish priest, was arrested by the Nazis and sent to Auschwitz. He died there after courageously choosing to give up his life so that another prisoner would be spared.

**Patron Saint of:** political prisoners, pro-life movement  
**Feast Day:** August 14



**A Prayer for the Week**

Father, you have welcomed us into your family and have given us your Son, Jesus. Send your Spirit to guide our family, now and forever. Amen.



# Getting ready for Chapter 5

# Take Home

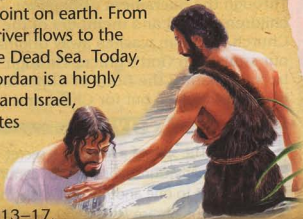


## Scripture Background

### In the Time of Jesus

**The Jordan River** The name “Jordan,” meaning “descender,” aptly describes a river that, when it reaches the end of its journey to the Dead Sea, arrives at the lowest point on earth. From the slopes of Mt. Hermon in Syria, the river flows to the Sea of Galilee, then winds its way to the Dead Sea. Today, in a region where water is scarce, the Jordan is a highly valued source of water for both Jordan and Israel, and has often been the source of disputes between the two countries. For Christians, the Jordan is esteemed as the place where Jesus was baptized.

Read about Jesus’ baptism in Matthew 3:13–17.



## OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION

## in Leadership

**The USCCB** The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is an assembly of all the bishops of the United States and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The work of the USCCB includes coordinating Catholic activities in the United States, organizing religious, charitable, and social welfare work at home and abroad, aiding in education, and helping immigrants. The USCCB has a staff of more than 350 priests, deacons, religious, and laypeople. Its headquarters are in Washington, D.C. To learn more about the USCCB, visit [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org).



## 5 We Are Baptized into the Body of Christ



God's Spirit baptized each of us and made us part of the Body of Christ.

Based on Corinthians 12:13

### Share

Imagine that your parish priest has asked you to create a club for Catholic kids your age to help them become stronger in their faith. Fill in the chart below with information about your club.

What is your club's name? \_\_\_\_\_

Who is the patron saint of your club? \_\_\_\_\_

What kinds of activities does your club do? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Design a symbol for your club.

When did God announce that Jesus was his Son?

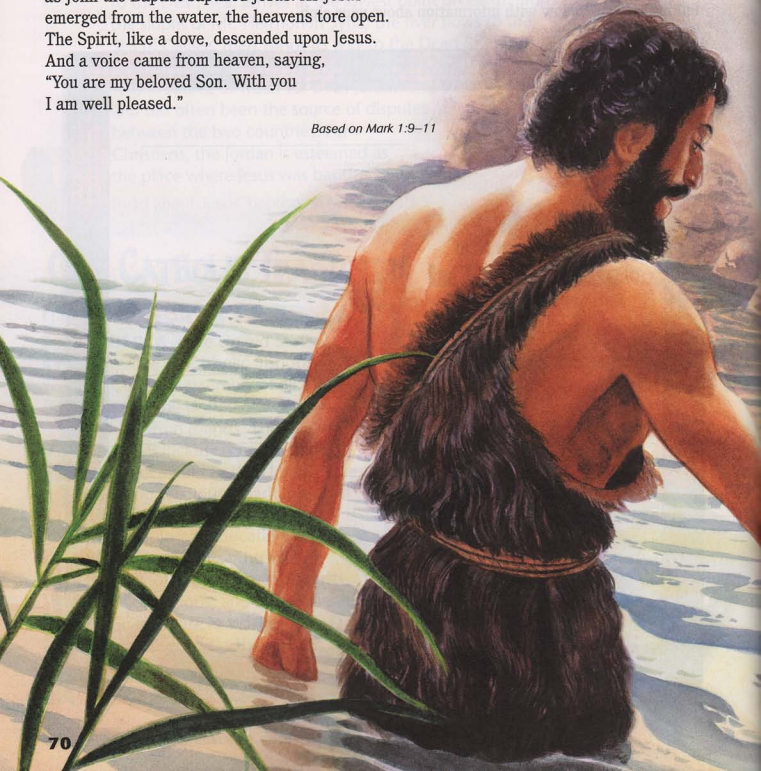
## Hear & Believe

### **Scripture** The Baptism of Jesus

*In the story of Jesus' baptism, God calls Jesus his "beloved Son."  
Through this story, we learn that Jesus is true God and true man.  
The **Incarnation** is the mystery of the Son of God becoming  
man in Jesus Christ.*

The waters of the Jordan River swirled gently about  
as John the Baptist baptized Jesus. As Jesus  
emerged from the water, the heavens tore open.  
The Spirit, like a dove, descended upon Jesus.  
And a voice came from heaven, saying,  
"You are my beloved Son. With you  
I am well pleased."

*Based on Mark 1:9–11*





## We Are Baptized into the Body of Christ

Jesus is both divine and human. In his divinity, he is the Son of God. In his humanity, he is a man and like us in every way except sin. Jesus was baptized to show sinners that he loved them and that he would save them from their sins. The name Jesus means "God saves." Only in Jesus can we find salvation.

Jesus gave us the sacrament of **Baptism** to free us from sin and to make us children of God. Baptism is necessary for our salvation. Through Baptism, we are welcomed into the Church and freed from **original sin** and all personal sins.

Original sin is the sin of Adam and Eve. When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, they disobeyed God and turned away from his love. Through Baptism, we are freed from original sin and reborn as God's children.

In Baptism, we also become members of the **Body of Christ**. The Body of Christ is the Church or the People of God. We believe that Jesus Christ is the head of the Church and that we are his Body. Jesus lives with us and in us. The Church lives from Christ, in Christ, and for Christ.

## Our Church Teaches

We believe in the Incarnation—that Jesus Christ is true God and true man. Through Baptism, we are freed from sin and become members of Christ's Body.

### We Believe

Through Baptism, we become children of God and members of the Body of Christ.

### Faith Words

#### Incarnation

The Incarnation is the mystery of the Son of God becoming man in Jesus Christ.

#### Baptism

Baptism is the Sacrament of Initiation that welcomes us into the Church and frees us from original sin and all personal sins.

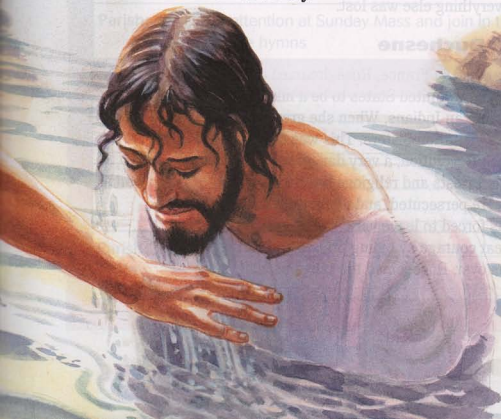
#### original sin

Original sin is the sin of Adam and Eve that has been passed on to all human beings.

#### Body of Christ

The Body of Christ is the Church or the People of God.

How can we  
build up the Body  
of Christ?





## Respond

### Building Up the Body of Christ

As baptized Catholics, we are called by God to build up the Body of Christ. The saints did this by using their gifts and talents for the good of the Church. Reading stories about the saints can inspire us to think of ways that God may be calling us to serve his Church.

#### Saint Maximilian Kolbe



Raymond Kolbe was born in Poland in 1894. When he was 12 years old, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to him. From then on, Raymond developed a great love and devotion for Mary. When he grew up, he became a Franciscan priest and took the name Maximilian. Several years later, World War II broke out, and Father Maximilian was arrested and sent to a

Nazi concentration camp. Although he suffered great abuse, Father Maximilian gave spiritual help to the other prisoners. Together, they prayed the Rosary and sang hymns to Mary. Father Maximilian told the other prisoners that the Nazis might kill their bodies, but they could never kill their souls.

Finally, Father Maximilian made the greatest sacrifice—his life. He volunteered to take the place of another prisoner who was about to be killed. Pope John Paul II called Maximilian Kolbe the patron saint of the difficult twentieth century. During a time of war, he brought many people to a deeper faith in God when everything else was lost.

#### Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne



As a young girl in France, Rose dreamed of traveling to the United States to be a missionary to the American Indians. When she grew up, she joined the Visitation Sisters. This was during the French Revolution, a very dangerous time in France. Priests and religious brothers and sisters were persecuted, and many were killed.

Rose was forced to leave her convent and return

home. However, she showed great courage by hiding priests and caring for prisoners. When the war was over, Rose joined the religious sisters of the Society of the Sacred Heart.

In 1818, Mother Rose's childhood wish was fulfilled. She and four other sisters traveled to the United States, where they opened schools and orphanages. Mother Rose was greatly admired by the Potawatomi Indians of Kansas. They called her "the woman who prays always." When Pope John Paul II named her a saint in 1988, he said, "This great pioneer looked to the future with the eyes of the heart—a heart that was on fire with God's love."

## Activity

You can help build up the Body of Christ at home, at school, and in your parish. Look at the examples below, then write ways that you can be a part of building up Christ's Body.

### Justin

**Home:** do chores without Mom or Dad having to remind me

**School:** defend a student who is being teased

**Parish:** become an altar server

### Rachel

**Home:** baby-sit my younger sister while Mom makes dinner

**School:** try not to talk in class when I'm not supposed to

**Parish:** really pay attention at Sunday Mass and join in the singing of the hymns

**Home:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parish:** \_\_\_\_\_

Which saint said that the Body of Christ is like a human body?



## Prayer Celebration

### A Prayer for the Body of Christ

**Leader:** Saint Paul wrote a letter to the early Christians who lived in the city of Corinth. He told them that all the members of the Church must work together. To help the Corinthians understand this idea, Saint Paul used a comparison. He said that the Church, or Body of Christ, is like a human body. All the parts need each other and must work together.

**Reader:** A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

A body is one, but it has many parts. It needs all its parts: feet, eyes, ears, everything to work. For example, the body has eyes. Is the ear a part of the body even if it is not an eye? Yes! The body needs hearing as well as sight. It is the same with Christ and his Church. Each of us makes up the Body of Christ. No matter who we are, we are all baptized into one Body, the Church.

*Based on 1 Corinthians 12–26*

**Leader:** Let us now pray for the Body of Christ, the Church.

**All:** Jesus, help us to carry out your mission in the world. Help us to use our gifts and talents for the good of your Church. We ask this in your name. Amen.

**A Complete the sentences with words from the box.**

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ is the mystery of the Son of God becoming man in Jesus Christ.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ is the Sacrament of Initiation that welcomes us into the Church and frees us from original sin.

3. The Body of Christ is also called the \_\_\_\_\_ or the People of God.

4. The sin of Adam and Eve that has been passed onto all human beings is called \_\_\_\_\_.

5. The name \_\_\_\_\_ means "God saves."

6. Reading about the \_\_\_\_\_ can inspire us to think of ways we can serve God and his Church.

7. When Jesus was baptized, the \_\_\_\_\_ descended upon him like a dove.

8. We can find \_\_\_\_\_ only through Jesus Christ.

9. Jesus is both \_\_\_\_\_ and human.

10. At Baptism, we become members of the \_\_\_\_\_.

original sin	Body of Christ
Baptism	divine
Incarnation	Reconciliation
saints	Savior
Jesus	Holy Spirit
Church	salvation

**B Match Column A with Column B by writing the correct number on the line provided.****A**

1. Maximilian Kolbe

2. Jesus

3. Rose Duchesne

4. Paul

5. John

**B**

\_\_\_\_\_ opened schools and orphanages

\_\_\_\_\_ baptized Jesus

\_\_\_\_\_ said the Church is like a human body

\_\_\_\_\_ is true God and true man

\_\_\_\_\_ gave up his life to save another prisoner



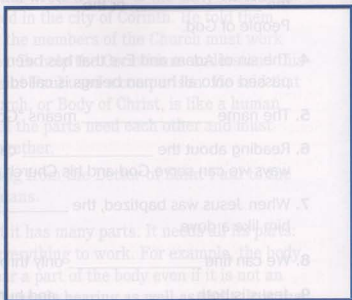
# Faith in Action

**Godparents** Godparents try to be good examples of faithful Christian living by sharing their love for Jesus and for the Church in all that they say and do. They take the time to pray for and encourage their godchildren as they grow in faith, so that they will come to know and love God, who is faithful to all who call on his name.

## In Everyday Life



**Activity** Think about how special and awesome the Sacrament of Baptism is. When you were baptized, you became a child of God. You also became a member of the Catholic Church, which has over one billion members all around the world. Because of your Baptism, you belong to the Catholic family, and you have brothers and sisters in faith on every continent and in every country. Design the poster to show that you are a child of God and a member of the Catholic family.



## In Your Parish



**Activity** Someday, when you grow up, a relative may ask you to be the godparent of his or her child. Describe three things that you would do to help your new godchild understand how much God loves him or her.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_