

We Share the Faith of a COMMUNITY

We usually celebrate sacraments in church. That does not mean sacraments happen only inside buildings filled with pews. Sacramental experiences occur frequently in our lives.

When I was a kid, my siblings and I had to pick rocks out of the field during the summer. It wasn't a fun job when the weather was cool, but when it was hot, picking rocks was one of the worst jobs in the world. Your sweat was like a magnet for the dirt that clung to the rocks.

The chatter that filled the air when we started walking the field had usually died

down to an occasional mumble by the time we were done. We were exhausted by the time we got home. And then my mom would hook the garden hose up to the sprinkler. Sometimes we'd be too tired to put our swimsuits on and we'd run under the cold water in our dirty work clothes.

No matter how little energy we had when the water first shot into the air, we were always completely refreshed and laughing by the time we were called in to dry off. This was a baptism of sorts—new life-renewed spirit delivered through the sign of water.

JOURNAL

With this story in mind, journal about a sacramental experience that has happened in your daily life. Ask yourself: When have I experienced the renewing effects of water that we celebrate in baptism? When have I experienced the power of sharing food to bond people together? When have I experienced my family remembering relatives I was born too late to know?

FAITH SHARING

The questions below are for you and your sponsor to discuss.



- What do you remember about the celebrations of the sacraments in which you have taken part so far?
- What are your first memories of going to church?
- What makes you feel involved in your parish?
- What do you know about your patron saint?

Ways to Participate IN EUCHARIST

Find out about the following ministries of the Lord's table in your parish. Interview a person who does one of the ministries you think you would most like to do.

- Music ministries
- Playing an instrument
- Singing in the choir
- Handing out music
- Welcoming worshipers
- Taking up the collection
- Serving coffee after Mass
- Driving people to church
- Cleaning the church
- Befriending people who need help getting into the building
- Putting together the church bulletin
- Priest
- Lectors
- Eucharistic ministers
- Servers
- Acolytes
- Ushers

Use the following questions to help you with your interview.

- What is the role of your ministry?
- Who is affected by your work?
- What do you like most about it?
- What gifts or talents do you possess that help you in your ministry?