

Sacraments



“What is a Sacrament?”

- Efficacious sign
- Instituted by Christ
- Entrusted to the Church
- Transmits grace – Divine Life

CCC 1084

Efficacious sign

Sacraments reveal
and make present
the reality
they signify.



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Instituted by Christ

- Scripture
- Apostolic Tradition
- Fathers of the Church



DA VINCI, Leonardo
Last Supper (1498-1500)



MICHELANGELO, Descent from the Cross

CCC 1115

Entrusted to the Church



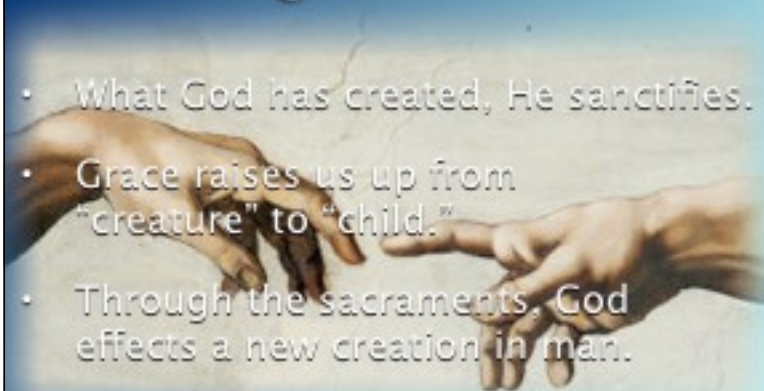
MICHELANGELO, Entry into Jerusalem

- Every liturgical action is an action of Christ and His Church
- It is Christ Who baptizes, forgives, ordains, heals
- Validity

CCC 1116

Transmits grace

- What God has created, He sanctifies.
- Grace raises us up from "creature" to "child."
- Through the sacraments, God effects a new creation in man.



CCC 1127

Why?

...because we need them!



BEFORE THE FALL

"Adam and Eve
were constituted in
an original 'state of
holiness and justice.'"



"This grace of original
holiness was to share
in ... divine life."

CCC 375

- State of holiness
and justice

CCC 375

- Harmony: with
Creator, creation,
himself


CCC 374

- Mastery of self: free
from concupiscence

CCC 377



BOSSCH, Hieronymus
Tryptich of Garden of Earthly Delights (detail)
c. 1500



Tree of
Knowledge of
Good and Evil

↓

Sin

↓

Death

MICHELANGELO
Adam and Eve
c. 1502

CCC 387

THE FALL CCC 397-98

**Man prefers himself
to God.**

Effects: Three-fold harmony destroyed

- Death
- Concupiscence
- Loss of grace



Original Sin

**“As sin came into the world
through one man and death
through sin, and so death
spread to all men because all
men sinned.”** *Romans 5:12*

**Thankfully, that's not the end
of the story!**

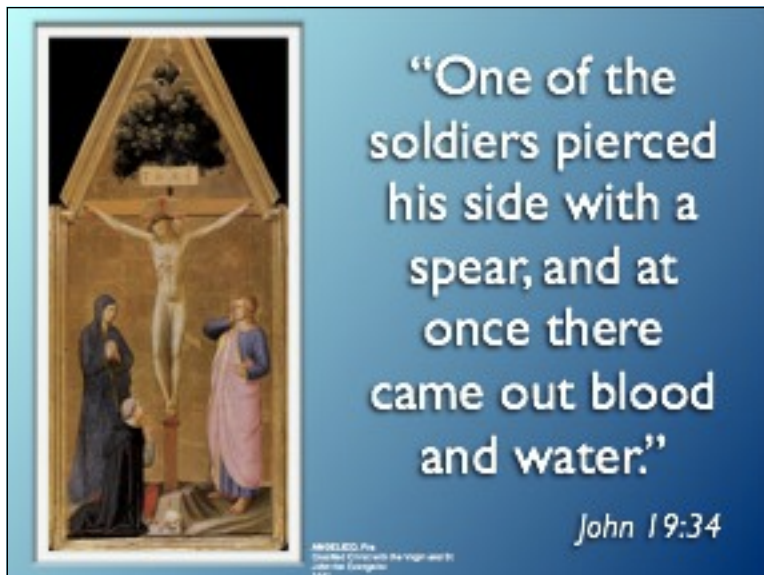
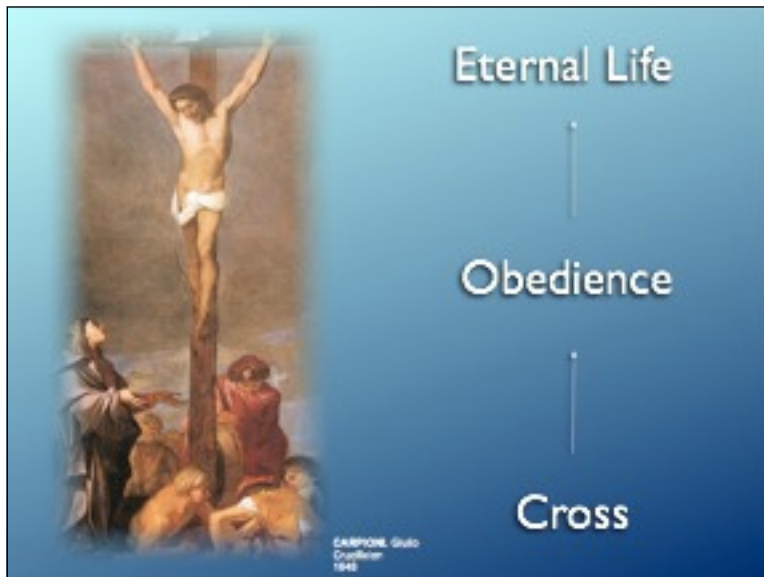
As one man's trespass led to condemnation
for all men

...so one man's act of
righteousness leads to
acquittal and life for all men.

For as by one man's disobedience many were
made sinners,

...so by one man's obedience
many will be made righteous.

Romans 5:18-19



*The sacraments restore the likeness
of God in man.*

“Disfigured by sin and death,
man remains in the image of God,
in the image of the Son,
but is deprived of the glory of God,
of his likeness.”

CCC 705

*Sanctifying grace is the
gratuitous gift of His life that
God makes to us; it is infused
by the Holy Spirit into the
soul to heal it of sin and to
sanctify it.*

CCC 2023

CREED

MORALITY

SACRAMENTS

PRAYER



- Instituted by Christ
- Given to the Church
- Efficacious sign-effect
what they signify
- Divine Life
- Christ's sacrifice
- God "touches" us







“Baptism, by
imparting the life
of Christ’s
grace...turns a man
back to God.”

CCC 405

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Efficacious sign

- Spiritual gift + material thing
 - Man is material & spiritual
- Matter: water
- Form: Trinitarian formula--
*“I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”*

Prefigured in the Old Testament --Fulfilled in Christ

Genesis 1:2

Genesis 7

Exodus 14-15

1 Peter 3:20-21

1 Cor 10:1-2



JOHN F. HENNESSY, FROM
THE BAPTIST CHURCH

Efficacious sign

- Removal of sin
 - though not Concupiscence
- New life in Grace
- Rebirth in Christ
- Incorporation into the Church

The Holy Spirit



For by one Spirit we
were all baptized into
one body -- Jews or
Greeks, slaves or free
-- and all were made
to drink of one Spirit.

1 Cor 12:13

St. John
The Baptist of Christ

Indelible Mark!



“ For it is impossible for those who were once illuminated...and are fallen away: to be renewed again ...”

CCC 1272-1274

Hebrews 6:4

Instituted by Christ

- Mt 3:13-16
- John 19:34
- Mt 28:19-20



Caravaggio, *Baptism of Christ*
The Baptism of Christ

Instituted by Christ

“No one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit.” John 3:5

God has bound salvation to the sacrament of baptism, but He Himself is not bound by the sacraments.

CCC 1257



Brethren, what shall we do?



And Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.'

Acts 2:37-39

Entrusted to the Church

- Ordinary minister: bishop, priest, deacon
 - In emergency: anyone with water pronouncing the Trinitarian formula: "I baptize (N.) in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."
- Even non believers can baptize, as long as they have the intention to do what the Church does when She baptizes.

The Rite of Baptism

- The Sign of the Cross
- Readings from Scripture
- Exorcism and anointing
- Blessing of the Baptismal Water
- Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith
- The Essential Rite of the Sacrament
- Anointing with Sacred Chrism
- Reception of the White Garment and Candle

Transmits grace – Divine Life

- Removal of Original Sin, personal sins, and the temporal punishment due to sin
- The grace of the Holy Spirit!



The sacraments restore the likeness of God in man.

Sanctifying Grace

“...Grasp clearly that the supernatural life, which we call also sanctifying grace, is not simply a passport to heaven:



it is the power to live in heaven.”

Frank Sheed, *Theology and Sanity*



By this supernatural endowment, we are raised from being merely creatures of God to being



children of God

“Baptism, by
imparting the life
of Christ’s
grace...turns a man
back to God.”

CCC 405

The Original Wound

*“For what I am doing, I do not
understand; for I am not practicing
what I would like to do, but I am
doing the very thing I hate.”*

Romans 7:15

Renew often!



Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist

“By means of these sacraments of Christian initiation, they [the faithful] thus receive in increasing measure the treasures of the divine life and advance toward the perfection of charity.”

Pope Paul VI
Apostolic Constitution *Divinae consortium naturae*
CCC 1212

*O, Mary
conceived
without sin, pray
for us who have
recourse to
Thee.*

