

To Know To Believe To Live – Module 9 Official Handout

02.13.21 Version

Developed by Msgr. Michael Clay

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BAPTISM:

Configured to the Paschal Mystery of Christ for My Salvation and the Salvation of the World

I. What Happens at Baptism: Baptism 101

A. Benefits:

1. Holy Spirit given in baptism bonds us permanently with the Holy Trinity (vertical relationship-DIVINE relationship-Recall the Rublev Trinity Icon)
2. This bond connects us to all who are baptized, saints and sinners (horizontal relationship-HUMAN relationship-community))
3. All sin is forgiven
4. Baptism into the Paschal Mystery empowers us to assimilate its life-giving power as we face our own ongoing struggles with sin and evil, both personal and social

B. Responsibilities:

1. Commits us to discipleship and mission

II. Baptismal Offices:

A. Post-Baptismal Anointing Prayer:

Almighty 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 joined you to his holy people. He now anoints you with the Chrism of salvation, so that you may remain members of Christ, **Priest, Prophet, and King** unto everlasting life. (*Order of Baptism of Children*)

B. Office of Priest:

1. Role of all priests:
 - a. Worship and glorify God
 - b. Offer the sacrifice for sanctification of the people
2. DISCUSSION: What do you think is the importance of a ministerial priest undertaking these roles, worshiping and glorifying God and offering the sacrifice for the sanctification of the people?
3. “Now the center and high point of the entire celebration begins, namely, the Eucharistic Prayer, the prayer of thanksgiving and sanctification. The [ministerial] priest calls upon the people to lift up their hearts towards the Lord in prayer and thanksgiving; he associates the people with himself in the prayer that he addresses in the name of the entire community to God the Father through Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit. The meaning of this prayer is that **the whole congregation of the faithful joins with Christ in confessing the great deeds of God and in offering the Sacrifice.**” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, §78)

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4. Priestly Function of the Baptized for the Salvation of the World:

a. Why do we intentionally join in the one sacrifice of Christ to God around a sacrificial table?

- **WORSHIP:** an act of obedience/humility to God's reign over our lives (we're God's creation, not independent agents)
- **SANCTIFICATION:** Places our suffering/death/resurrection in solidarity with Christ's suffering/death/ resurrection
- **SANCTIFICATION:** We bring sufferings/deaths of others in the world into solidarity with Christ's suffering/death so the resurrection of Christ may be unleashed into the lives of those whose sufferings/deaths we are in solidarity with

C. Office of Prophet:

1. In the Bible, not someone who can foretell the future (an oracle) but someone highly in tune with the will of God for the world and for individuals in the present who is sent as God's messenger to proclaim that will and its consequences if not followed (forewarns)
2. In Christianity, the prophetic person has a deep concern for life and for others (e.g., *Laudato Si* by Pope Francis)
3. Prophets call others to basic truths of God that people forget (e.g., care for the poor, protection of life, etc.) due to spiritual amnesia
4. Every baptized person is endowed with this potential

D. Office of Leader:

1. Jesus' Teaching: So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mark 10:42-45)
2. "We find ourselves in a bind about following this [leadership] pathway because we receive little help from our culture. Print and media campaigns address us as needy and insecure consumers with pocketbooks; politicians' sound bites address us as self-interested hedonists with a seventh grade education; and the litigious society around us systematically grinds away at any remnant of a sense of the common good. When we watch TV to relax, we too often find ourselves confronted with soft pornography and mockery of traditional values. When we try to discuss the world with friends, we feel fearful of damaging our relationships" (Philibert 106) if we hold to Christian values that are contrary to the prevailing values of society, especially the use of power.

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E. Discussion:

1. What new insight about being a baptismal priest, baptismal prophet, and/or baptismal leader have you become aware of from this presentation?
2. What excites you about using the divine strength given to you in baptism for your royal mission as priest, prophet and/or leader?
3. What prevents/ inhibits/creates anxiety for you in using the divine strength given to you in baptism for your royal mission as priest, prophet, and/or leader?

III. Baptismal Prayer:

O God, who bring us to participate in the mystery of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of your Son, grant that, strengthened by the spirit of adoption as your children, we may always walk in newness of life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

(Source: Roman Missal)

IV. Bibliography/Credits:

1. “All Christians by Baptism are Called to be Prophets.” Jeffrey Kirby.
<https://cruxnow.com/commentary/2021/01/all-christians-by-baptism-are-called-to-be-prophets/>
2. “Baptized in Water.” Words by John Saward, Melody: Bunessan. Performed by Jubilate. Used with permission.
3. “Be Still and Know That I Am God,” by Christopher Walker and Sr. Paule Freeburg, DC is used with permission by Oregon Catholic Press.
4. *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*. United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Used with permission.
5. *Order of Baptism of Children*. United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Used with permission.
6. *The Priesthood of the Faithful: Key to a Living Church*. Paul Philibert. Liturgical Press, 2005. Used with permission.