

To Know To Believe To Live – KBL2 Baptism 2 Official Handout

02.13.21 Version

Developed by Msgr. Michael Clay

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BAPTISM

Part II: Baptismal Priesthood

I. General Names of Baptismal Office of Priest:

- A. Baptismal Priesthood
- B. Royal Priesthood
- C. Ordinary Priesthood (consecrating by their holy actions, the laity consecrate the world itself to God, *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church*, §34)
- D. Priesthood of the Body of Christ

II. Post-Baptismal Explanatory Prayer of Anointing:

- A. 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*)

III. Christ is Priest, Prophet, and King: Sharing In His Three Offices:

- A. This explanatory prayer declares that the newly baptized have just become sharers in Christ's anointing as priest, prophet, and king in their baptism
- B. The faithful are not only given privileges and responsibility in baptism, but also the power to accomplish what has been given to us
- C. The baptized share in Jesus' priestly, prophetic, and royal power as well
- D. All three offices overlap and all the baptized are anointed as all three
- E. None of the baptized are only priests or only prophets or only leaders but all share in all three offices of Christ
- F. "The participation of the laity in the threefold mission of Christ as Priest, Prophet and King finds its origin in Baptism, its further development in Confirmation, and its realization and dynamic sustenance in the Holy Eucharist" Pope John Paul II, *The Lay Members of Christ's Faithful People*, 14).
- G. Discussion:
 - 1. Describe your current level of awareness of each of the three offices bestowed upon you at your baptism?
 - 2. How would you explain to the parents of a child soon to be baptized the importance of Confirmation and the regular reception of the Holy Eucharist in relationship to the three offices that will be bestowed upon their child?

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IV. The Office of Priest:

A. Worship and glorify God

1. Worship: expressing honor to God through reverence, devotion, and respect in the presence of other people or alone
2. Glorify: thinking, feeling, and living in ways that acknowledge God's supreme greatness (which presumes an awareness of God's supreme greatness)

B. Discussion:

1. How do you best worship and glorify God at Mass?
2. What makes this easy at your parish Mass?
3. What makes this difficult at your parish Mass?
4. What does worshiping and glorifying God look like for you outside of Mass?

C. Offer the sacrifice for the sanctification of the people

1. Sacrifice: joining with Christ's sacrifice for the salvation of the world through our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving (which flows out of our awareness of the importance to worship and glorify the Lord).
2. Sanctification of the people: The priest's role is to help the people grow in holiness and sanctity both directly and indirectly
 - a. Directly: liturgical ministry that helps the people experience the holiness of God at worship (e.g., musicians, lectors, greeters, servers, etc.)
 - b. Indirectly: witness/example of a holy life to the world because you are being sanctified

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D. Discussion:

1. There is more than one way we express our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving at Mass. How do you express your sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving at Mass?
2. What makes this easy at your parish Mass?
3. What makes this complicated for you?
4. How might you sanctify others in your family, among friends, at work, and/or in the presence of strangers?

V. Closing 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.
(*Roman Missal*)

VI. Bibliography/Credits:

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