

Chapter
2

Discover!
Finding Faith in Life

We Celebrate Our Baptism

Scripture Focus: Exodus 14:1–31

Lesson Goals

- to review that in Baptism we promise to live as faithful Christians
- to identify some of the key ritual actions of the Sacrament of Baptism
- to describe the effects of the Sacrament of Baptism

Parent Preview

- Review the Scripture on pages 120–121 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Exodus 14:1–31).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 4 of the chapter 2 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

Get Ready! (10 minutes)

Pray the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 2 activity booklet.

Invite your child to share all the ways he or she used water today. Conclude by discussing why water is so important for our lives.

Tell your child that together you will learn about the Sacrament of Baptism, its key ritual symbols and actions (like water), and its effects.

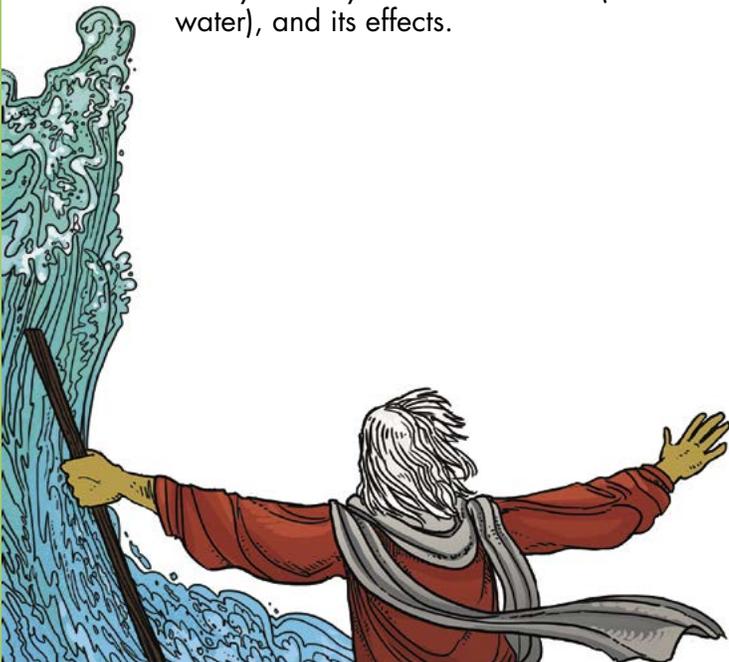
Dive In! (20 minutes)

Read the Scripture on pages 120–121 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Exodus 14:1–31).

Invite your child to answer the numbered questions on page 2 of the chapter 2 activity booklet. *Answers:*
1. the Egyptian army, 2. They had been slaves. 3. Don't be afraid. 4. The Lord drove the sea back with an east wind. 5. They stood in awe of the Lord; they had faith in the Lord and in Moses.

Discuss together the questions in the blue box on page 2 of the chapter 2 activity booklet.

Read the Understand It! and Live It! sections on page 1 of the chapter 2 activity booklet. Invite your child to retell the Scripture passage in his or her own words.



Chapter 2

Discover! (20 minutes)

Read with your child the article “Sacrament of Baptism” on the third page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child’s understanding.

Invite your child to look at the activity on the top part of page 3 of the chapter 2 activity booklet. Ask your child to read the six questions silently and to think about each question. Encourage your child to ask about any unfamiliar words or ideas in the baptismal promises.

Optional: If you have additional time, you may ask your child to color the Scripture verse on page 2 of the activity booklet or to answer the journal question in the box at the bottom of page 3.

Go! (10 minutes)

Invite your child to share one thing he or she learned from today’s lesson.

Choose one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 2 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.

Invite your child to pick a mission strip from the hat or bowl you have prepared.

Ask your child to locate in the mission booklet the challenge that was selected and to mark it with a bookmark or sticky note. Encourage your child to complete the mission during the coming week.

Conclude by praying the prayer on page 4 of the chapter 2 activity booklet.




 Chapter
2

Sacrament of Baptism

Can you spot the similarities between today's reading and Baptism? The Red Sea reminds us of the water of Baptism. The Israelites walked through this water to find new life, and Baptism brings us into new life as God's child. And crossing the Red Sea freed the Israelites from slavery, just as Baptism frees us from sin.

The Sacrament of Baptism has many meaningful ritual actions. Here are a few:

- **Sign of the Cross:** Made on the forehead of the child by the priest and the godparents.
- **Baptismal promises:** Questions and answers about the faith, in which we (or our parents and godparents) promise to live as faithful Christians.
- **Holy oil:** Used by the priest to make the Sign of the Cross on the person, to show that he or she is sealed with the Holy Spirit.

Key Words

baptismal promises Questions and answers about the faith made by the person being baptized (if old enough) or by his or her parents and godparents (if the child is too young).

Original Sin The sin passed on to each of us from Adam and Eve because of their disobedience to God.

We Know and Live Our Faith

The following article in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource corresponds to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "The Sacrament of Baptism," page 28

If you have additional time, read the selection together, and ask some questions to check your child's understanding.

- **Water:** Poured over the head of the person being baptized, while the priest proclaims: "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (*Rite of Baptism for Children*).

In Baptism, we become children of God, members of the Church. Baptism connects us to all others who have been baptized with water in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The waters of Baptism wash away all sin—both **Original Sin**, passed to each of us from Adam and Eve, and also personal sin. As a result, we are able to share in God's divine life and become temples of the Holy Spirit.

Baptism marks us all as belonging to Christ. No matter what we do, nothing can erase this mark!

Review

1. What are some ritual actions of the Sacrament of Baptism?
2. What do we promise in Baptism?
3. What are some effects of the Sacrament of Baptism?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

1. The Sign of the Cross, the baptismal promises, the anointing with holy oil, and the pouring of water. 2. We promise to live as faithful Christians. 3. Baptism washes away all our sin, including Original Sin. It makes us children of God and members of his Church. It connects us to all who have been baptized. We share in God's divine life, and we become temples of the Holy Spirit. Baptism marks us as belonging to Christ.

