

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer
For the Week of the Baptism of Our Lord
January 10, 2021 through January 17, 2021

Catechesis Notes for the Week — HOLY BAPTISM: “Jesus answered, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit’” (John 3:5-6). “Jesus defines Holy Baptism as the new birth of water and the Spirit. This new birth is the miracle of faith in Christ. The Holy Spirit gives birth to faith in Christ through the seed of the Word of God that is implanted in the water. Faith in Christ and Holy Baptism are inseparably linked together as necessary for salvation. To say that Baptism is necessary for salvation is to say that Christ Jesus is necessary for salvation because He alone suffered and died for our sins and He is the salvation given to us by the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. We cannot enter the kingdom of God apart from faith in Christ. ‘To be born’ spiritually, therefore, is to be given the gift of faith in Christ. This gift of faith is born of water and the Spirit—Holy Baptism. Through the Word of God in Baptism, the Holy Spirit promises salvation in Christ and gives the gift of faith. Our sinful flesh can produce only sin and unbelief. But the Holy Spirit creates faith and declares us righteous for Jesus’ sake. This is why the Holy Spirit is called ‘the Lord and giver of life.’” (Excerpted from Lutheran Catechesis: Catechist Edition, p. 220a, used by permission.)

The Order of Meditation and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Apostles’ Creed

Verse of the week: Ephesians 2:8-10

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

Psalm 29 and/or the appointed daily psalms as listed below

Prayer on the Psalm: Heavenly Father, God of all grace, govern our hearts that we may never forget Your blessings but steadfastly thank and praise You for all Your goodness in this life until, with all Your saints, we praise You eternally in Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Daily Psalms	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	10	14, 15	18	19, 20	22	26, 27	30	32
Evening	11, 12	13	16, 17	21	23, 24	25	28, 29	31

The Catechism: The Sacrament of Holy Baptism—Part I

What is Baptism? Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's word.	Third +
Which is that word of God? Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew:	First Grade +
“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” [Matt. 28:19]	Kindergarten +

Readings for the Week of the Baptism of Our Lord

Day	Bible Stories for the Family and Academy	Daily Prayer Readings from LSB, p. 299	
Sunday	The Baptism of Our Lord—Mark 1:4-11	Ezek. 18:1-4, 19-32	Rom. 2:17-29
Monday	The Baptism of Our Lord - Matthew 3:1-6, 13-17	Ezek. 33:1-20	Rom. 3:1-18
Tuesday	Behold the Lamb of God - John 1:19-34	Ezek. 34:1-24	Rom. 3:19-31
Wednesday	Nicodemus Comes to Jesus by Night - John 3:1-16	Ezek. 36:13-28	Rom. 4:1-25
Thursday	The Woman at the Well - John 4:1-26, 39-42	Ezek. 36:33-37:14	Rom. 5:1-21
Friday	The Pool of Bethesda - John 5:2-15	Ezek. 37:15-28	Rom. 6:1-23
Saturday	Catch Up on Readings or Look Ahead to Sunday’s Readings	Ezek. 38:1-23	Rom. 7:1-20

Prayers: Collect for the Week, Daily Themes for Prayer, In Our Prayers at Victory in Christ

Collect for the Week of the Baptism of Our Lord:

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Daily Themes for Prayer

- Sunday:** *Pray for the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.*
- Monday:** *Pray for faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work, for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.*
- Tuesday:** *Pray for deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*
- Wednesday:** *Pray for marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.*
- Thursday:** *Pray for the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deacons, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacraments of Christ's body and blood.*
- Friday:** *Pray for the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.*
- Saturday:** *Pray for faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.*

In our Prayers at Victory in Christ this Week

Healing

Dante Pelligrino, Pastor Philip Schielke, Gary Rohloff, Sharon Rohloff, Rachel Moreland, Ron O'Donley, Joy Kroeger, Mark Farr, Tina Sawall, Peg Munson, Diane Goains, Richard Schroeder, Jack Teague, Jacob Brewer, Orrion McJimsey, Debbie Drovwall, Joe Schober, Gordon Munson, Jenny Jones, Eugene Kroeger

Strength

Our Shut-ins

Employment

Peace and Comfort

The Rice Family and the King Family and the family and friends of Eric Dobson, who passed away this week

Expectant Mothers

Katherine Grisham

Military and Over Seas

Kyle Rohloff

College Students

Gabrielle Funke, Hailey Richardson, Jared Rohloff, Logan Rohloff, Ben Schielke, Jacob Schielke, Gina Visingardi

Seminarian

John Schober

Blessings

Mission / Ministries

Our Academy and the missions we support

Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism

Hymn of Week

"God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It"

LSB 594