

THOUGHTS ON INFANT BAPTISM

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- * A call to holiness through God's grace
- * God made us to know, love and serve Him; which begins at Baptism
- * The beginning of being made a saint: for the time being
- * Washed of original sin
- * Imprint of an indelible character
- * Enlightenment by the grace of the Holy Spirit
- * A sharer in the life of the Trinity
- * Adopted child of God
- * A temple of the Holy Spirit
- * Alive with the supernatural life of grace
- * Freedom from the slavery of sin
- * Entry into the new and everlasting Covenant and the Church
- * The special gift of existing, by the power of the Holy Spirit
- * The coming of the Holy Spirit through the wounds of the crucifixion
- * Baptism is about the culture of life; opposed to the worldly culture of death. It brings us to eternal life.

THE GOAL OF BAPTISM

- * To love God above all things; and neighbor as self
- * We live the life of God through LOVE [charity]
- * The start of a spiritual battle against the world, the flesh, the devil
- * Children as imitators follow the examples of the parents; their first teachers, who themselves must believe
- * Salvation is not a dream but begins at Baptism and becomes a reality only through the mercy and love of God for those who love Him
- * Faith of the parents is the foundation upon which the child grows
- * Parents are the first teachers of the ways of faith, and the practice of virtue. You can't teach if you don't believe and live what you believe
- * The Lord says: "he who abides in me; I will abide in him."

- * The life of Mary is the guide post for the fulfillment of Baptismal life
- * Baptism is a call to the greatness of ordinary life; a call to holiness
- * Baptism is a vocation dedicated to life
- * To be in communion with a believing community
- * The white garment, not only a sign of the new Christian dignity but a mother's surplus love for her child