

What Your Child Is
Learning This Week
January 10, 2010



**This week we
learned about Baptism.**

Helping Them Remember....

Today the children heard the story of Jesus' baptism. They baptized a doll and learned that when they were baptized, they became a member of God's family, the Church.

The children learned that every member of God's family is important...parents, children, grandparents, friends and neighbors.

By being baptized, they received a very special welcome into the Family of God and even though they were very little at the time, they have a job to do now, and that is to learn about God and pray. Take a few minutes to tell your child about his/her baptism, show them some photographs and let them know what a special day it was for your whole family.

Teaching the Sign of the Cross

Do you remember being taught the Sign of the Cross? This week is a good time for you to teach it to your child, because Father, Son and Holy Spirit are present in the story of Christ's baptism. You can also explain that the Sign of the Cross was made over them at their own Baptism. Here are some things you might want to tell your child as you teach:

- Start with the right hand because Jesus sits at the "right hand of the Father"—the greatest honor in heaven.
- Remind them to say "**In the name of the Father**" as they touch the middle of their forehead, because God the Father is at the 'top' of everything!
- Tell them to say "**and of the Son**" as they touch the middle of their chest, because Jesus teaches us to love with our whole heart.
- Have them say, "**and of the Holy Spirit**" as they touch their left shoulder and sweep across to their right. Tell them that this reminds us that the Spirit flows all around us and wraps us in love like a hug.
- **Amen!** It's Hebrew for "it is so". It's a way of saying, "I believe this!" as they bring their palms together to pray.



Upcoming Classes...

January 17 class

January 24 class

January 31 No class

February 7 class

February 14 class

Teaching our Children to Pray

One of the best gifts parents can give their children is the habit of praying. Here are 4 ways to add prayer your day.

1. **Start the day with a prayer:** A quick prayer together in the morning while you are brushing teeth, tying shoes or zipping snowsuits
2. **Say a prayer or two in the car:** We all spend a lot of time driving from place to place. Each time you start the engine, say a quick prayer together.
3. **Pray at every meal:** Don't let a meal begin without a prayer of thanksgiving for all God has given us.
4. **Keep special intentions in mind:** Say a little prayer each day for special intentions, a sick friend, soldiers at war, safety in travel, doing well on a test or to help Mom and Dad at work.

Sunday January 17th Class :



Joseph and the Special Coat



Check us out on the Web

<http://stmariagoretti.org/SMG/>

Questions or concerns?

Please call the Religious Ed office.

Our door is always open to help you in any way we can.

Religious Ed Office

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