

Reflecting on the Meaning of Infant Baptism

1. Why does the Catholic Church baptize infants?
2. Infants are innocent. What benefit do they receive through Baptism?
3. Can infant Baptisms take place during Mass? (If so, then at what point in the celebration do they take place?)
4. If the Sacraments require adult commitment, how and when does adult commitment take place during an infant Baptism?
5. Did Christians baptize infants in the early Church?
6. Explain the meaning of each of the following symbols: pouring water over the baby's head three times, presenting a lighted candle, clothing the baby with a white garment.
7. Related to Baptism, why do Catholics bless themselves and other things with holy water?
8. Who are the ordinary ministers of Baptism?
9. Is there any circumstance under which you could administer the Sacrament of Baptism? If so, explain the circumstances.

