

Day 11

PILGRIMAGE OF GRACE

BAPTISM



Church Fathers on the Waters of Baptism

St. Irenaeus, 190 AD (Fragment 34)

“And [Naaman] dipped himself . . . seven times in the Jordan’ [2 Kgs. 5:14]. It was not for nothing that Naaman of old, when suffering from leprosy, was purified upon his being baptized, but [this served] as an indication to us. For as we are lepers in sin, we are made clean, by means of the sacred water and the invocation of the Lord, from our old transgressions, being spiritually regenerated as newborn babes, even as the Lord has declared: ‘Except a man be born again through water and the Spirit, he shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven’”

St. Irenaeus, 192 AD (The Demonstration of the Apostolic Preaching)

“Now faith occasions this for us even as the Elders, the disciples of the Apostles, have handed it down to us. First of all, it bids us to keep in mind that we have received baptism for the remission of sins in the name of God the Father and in the name of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who was incarnate, died and rose again, and in the Holy Spirit of God. This baptism is the seal of eternal life and the new birth unto God that we should no longer be the sons of mortal men but of the eternal and perpetual God.”

Tertullian, 203 AD (Baptism 1)

“Happy is our sacrament of water, in that, by washing away the sins of our early blindness, we are set free and admitted into eternal life. . . But we, little fishes after the example of our [Great] Fish, Jesus Christ, are born in water, nor have we safety in any other way than by permanently abiding in water. So that most monstrous creature, who had no right to teach even sound doctrine, knew full well how to kill the little fishes—by taking them away from the water!” —Tertullian, Baptism 1 Date: 203 A.D.



Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Dear brethren, through the Paschal Mystery we have been buried with Christ in Baptism, that we may walk with him in newness of life. And so, let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism, which we once renounced Satan and his works and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church. And so I ask you:

V. Do you renounce Satan?

R. I do.

V. And all his works?

R. I do.

V. And all his empty show?

R. I do.

OR:

V. Do you renounce sin,
so as to live in the freedom of the children of God?

R. I do.

V. Do you renounce the lure of evil,
so that sin may have no mastery over you?

R. I do.

V. Do you renounce Satan,
the author and prince of sin?

R. I do.

V. Do you believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth?

R. I do.

V. Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered death and was buried,
rose again from the dead
and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

R. I do.

V. Do you believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting?

R. I do.

V. And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit
and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins,
keep us by his grace,
in Christ Jesus our Lord,
for eternal life.

R. Amen.

All are sprinkled with holy water.

Vespers, 1st Saturday of Lent

Ant. 3 Moses and Elijah were speaking to him of the death he would endure in Jerusalem.

Canticle: Philippians 2:6-11

Christ, God's holy servant

Though he was in the form of God, †
Jesus did not deem equality with God *
something to be grasped at.

Rather, he emptied himself †
and took the form of a slave, *
being born in the likeness of men.

He was known to be of human estate, *
and it was thus that he humbled himself,
obediently accepting even death, *
death on a cross!

Because of this, *
God highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name *
above every other name,

So that at Jesus' name *
every knee must bend
in the heavens, on the earth, *
and under the earth,
and every tongue proclaim †
to the glory of God the Father: *
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, *
and will be for ever. Amen.

Ant. Moses and Elijah were speaking to him of the death he would endure in Jerusalem.

READING

2 Corinthians 6:1-4a

We beg you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For he says, "In an acceptable time I have heard you; on a day of salvation I have helped you." Now is the acceptable time! Now is the day of salvation! We avoid giving anyone offense, so that our ministry may not be blamed. On the contrary, in all that we do we strive to present ourselves as ministers of God.

