

Chapter 6 **Water and Spirit**

For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body and were all given to drink of one Spirit. *1 Corinthians 12:13*

To the Parents:

In chapter 6, your child learned the following:

- The Church is the Body of Christ.
- Jesus' followers are born of water and the Spirit.
- Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist are the three Sacraments of Initiation.
- The baptized are called to be priest, prophet, and king.

Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist, the Sacraments of Initiation, are often celebrated by the very young and perhaps are not understood as preparation for the Christian way of life. As people mature, however, the significance of these sacraments becomes clearer.

Baptism is the sacrament by which persons are brought to new life in Christ. Sin is overcome by God's grace through the Christian community that surrounds its members with loving support and examples of holiness. In Confirmation, the baptized are "sealed" or anointed by the Holy Spirit and are strengthened in living out their baptismal promises to "reject sin" and the "empty promises" of evil. The Eucharist completes the Sacraments of Initiation, as the followers of Jesus are nourished by his very Body and Blood to "go forth to love and serve God and one another." Thoughtful participation in the Sacraments of Initiation contributes to the lifelong conversion of the mind and the heart.

With Your Child:

1. Read the conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus (*John 3:1-9*) and talk about the images that Jesus used.
2. Talk about the Sacraments of Initiation and how they relate to the Nicodemus passage.
3. Write a short prayer for those who are seeking membership into the Church, whether newborn or adult.
4. Together read about Saint Joan Delanou on the Review and Explore page.