

Keysis Outline

1/9/2008

Justin—Saint of the Day—St. Stephen

Review—Liturgy + Christmas:

Liturgy—the work of God

Christmas Season—Christmas Eve until the Baptism of the Lord

Epiphany—Three Wise Men

- Is 60:1-6
- Bible doesn't mention the number of wise men or their names
- Caspar, Belthasar, & Melchior
- Letters C, B & M—
 - Ancient Epiphany (appearance or manifestation) celebrated 3 events
 - When he appeared as he really was---Messiah & God—to the Magi
 - The miracle at Cana
 - Baptism in the Jordan
 - Second only to Easter in Baptism
 - Holy water of Baptism taken to bless the homes with the initials CBM written over the doorposts-- Christ blesses this house (Christus bendicat mansionem)."
- Gifts
 - Gold—King
 - Frankincense—He is God Incarnate
 - Myrrh—He has come to die

Review Sacraments

- Efficacious sign of grace—an visible sign of an invisible mystery
- The Fall—splintered our relationship with God into pieces (rainbow)
- Needed to heal and put the pieces back together
- When Christ gave himself for the Church (the people)—he married Her. The fruit of that union is the Sacraments.—Sacraments are instituted by Christ & entrusted to the Church.
- They are a free gift of God's grace—underserved gift of His life within us
- Participants must have the proper inner attitude and readiness, or else the sacrament will have no effect in us.
- Sacraments not only assume we have faith, but they also nourish, strengthen, and express it.

Small groups

Baptism

1. Gen 1:2 & 1 Pt 3:20-21
 - a. Old Testament References
 - b. Ark—water made an end of sin and a new beginning of goodness.
 - c. Water is blessed by God

- d. Water is salvific
 - e. Crossing of the Red Sea & Crossing of the Jordan River
2. Mt 3:13-17
 - a. Jesus Baptism—to fulfill all righteousness
 - b. Jesus leads by example
 - c. We become adopted sons & daughters of God
 - d. Imparts the HS
 3. Jn 3:3-5
 - a. Nicodemus
 - b. Baptism is necessary for Salvation
 4. Lk 12:50
 - a. Jesus compares his crucifixion to baptism
 - b. We die and rise again when we are baptized
 - c. Put on new life
 5. Mt 28:16-20
 - a. Jesus reinforces that Baptism is necessary for salvation
 - b. Church takes Her commission very seriously
 6. Acts 2:38
 - a. Principal effects are purification from sins and new birth in the HS
 - b. All sins are forgiven.
 - c. Receive the HS
 - d. Must repent
 7. Acts 16:31-33
 - a. Baptism is connected with faith
 - b. Entire family baptized—probably included babies as well. Age didn't matter.

Effects of Baptism:

- Purification from sins and new birth in the Holy Spirit
- Necessary for Salvation—CCC 1257
- Baptism of desire & baptism of blood
- We become new creatures, adopted children of God, partakers in the Divine Nature, members of Christ & Temples of the HS.
- We become members of the Body of Christ
- Baptism unites all Christians with the Catholic Church