

Young Apprentices

A RESOURCE FOR THE OCIA

INQUIRY SESSION: SACRAMENTS



My Story

Perhaps you have been a member of a team or group that won a championship, and the crowd was cheering for you. Or perhaps your family has a yearly reunion that helps you remember that you are part of something special and you are not alone in the world.



AND THINK

- *When have you been part of something that made you feel proud or joyful?*
- *Why are those times important?*



God's Story

The Seven Sacraments of the Catholic Church help strengthen us as persons of faith and as the community of believers. Christ is at work in the sacraments, and through the Holy Spirit he makes our faith grow, heals us, forgives us, and fills us with God's grace.

The gifts of the sacraments help us be the light of Christ in the world. They help us live lives of holiness, justice, peace, and love.

The Seven Sacraments of the Catholic Church are

Baptism

Confirmation

Eucharist

Penance and Reconciliation

Anointing of the Sick

Matrimony

Holy Orders

KEY



POINTS



Our Response

The celebration of any sacrament is a special event in the life of the Church.



STOP & SHARE

- *Have you attended the celebration of a Catholic sacrament?*
- *If so, what did you see, hear, and feel?*
- *What questions do you have about what you saw and heard?*

Sharing God's Word

With your family, read one or more of the Scriptures listed below. Talk about what **sacrament** each passage describes.

Matthew 28:19-20

(The Commissioning of the Disciples)

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

(Tradition of the Institution)

James 5:13-15

(Anointing of the Sick)

The above readings are available at usccb.org/bible/readings.

Faith Words

sacraments

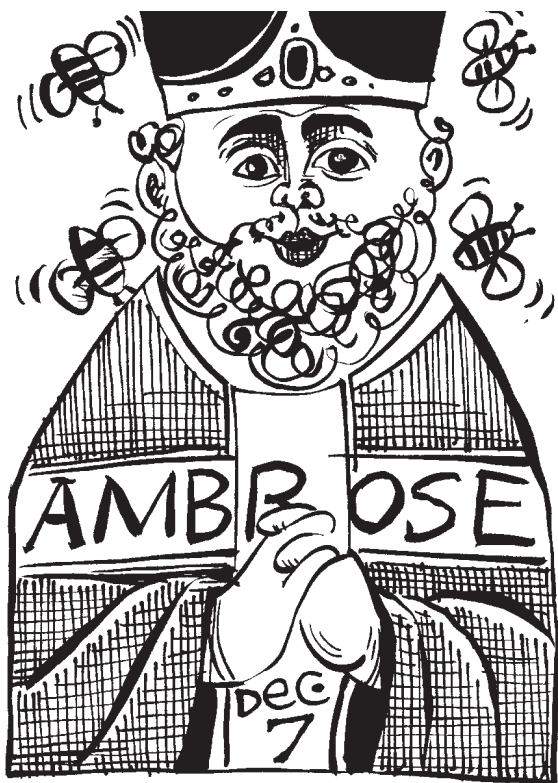
The sacraments are the seven main liturgical signs of the Church, given to us by Jesus. Every sacrament gives special graces. The three groups of sacraments are Sacraments of Initiation, Sacraments of Healing, and Sacraments at the Service of Communion.

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grace

Grace is the gift of God's life and loving presence.

Witness of Faith



Saint Ambrose (339–397)

Ambrose was a very wise man who became a lawyer and was the governor of Milan in Italy. In the year 374 the bishop of Milan died, and the people wanted Ambrose to be named the bishop. He was not even a priest! Even more, he had never been taught Christian beliefs and had never been baptized. So within a week Ambrose was baptized, ordained a priest, and named the bishop of Milan. He gave away his riches and possessions and began to study Scripture and theology. He used his wisdom and his position to speak up for justice. The Church celebrates the Feast of Saint Ambrose on December 7.