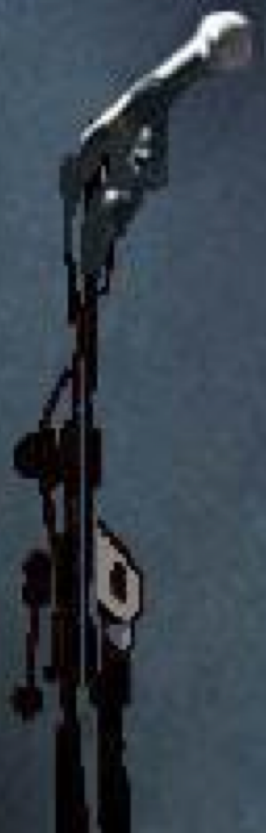



# PASTOR'S OPEN MIC



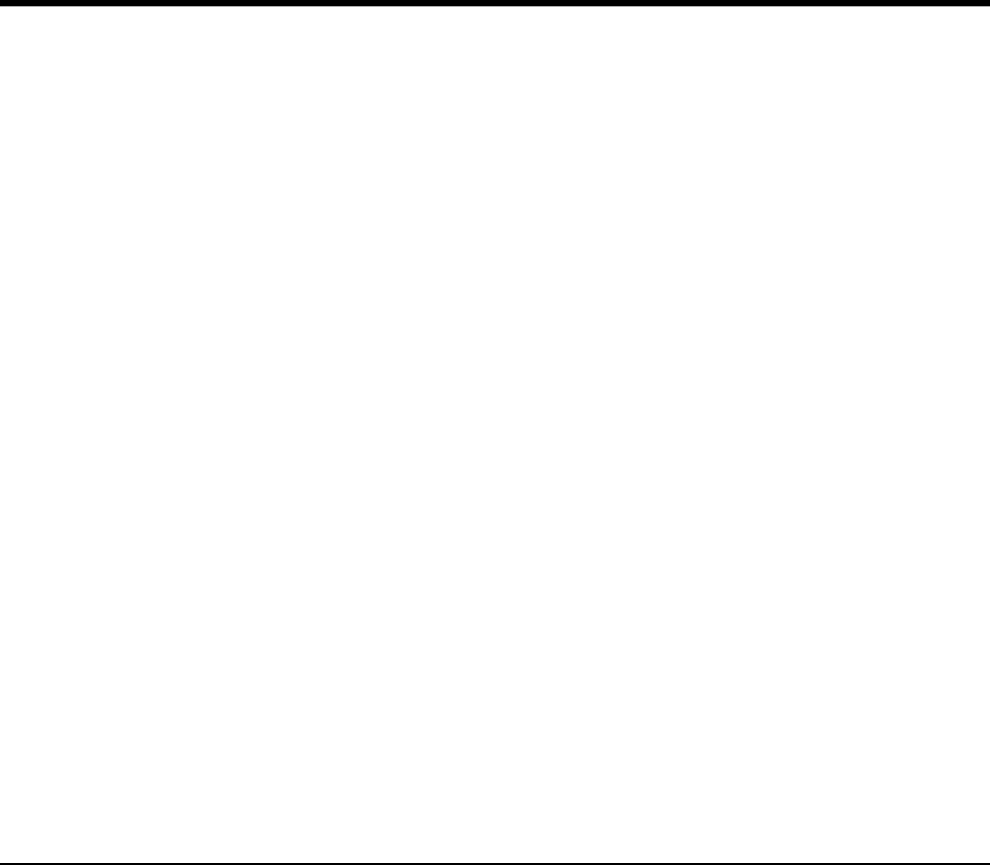


View #1 -  
**Baptismal  
Regeneration**  
*(Catholic)*



"Parents are obliged to see that their infants are baptised within the first few weeks" and, "If the infant is in danger of death, it is to be baptised without any delay."

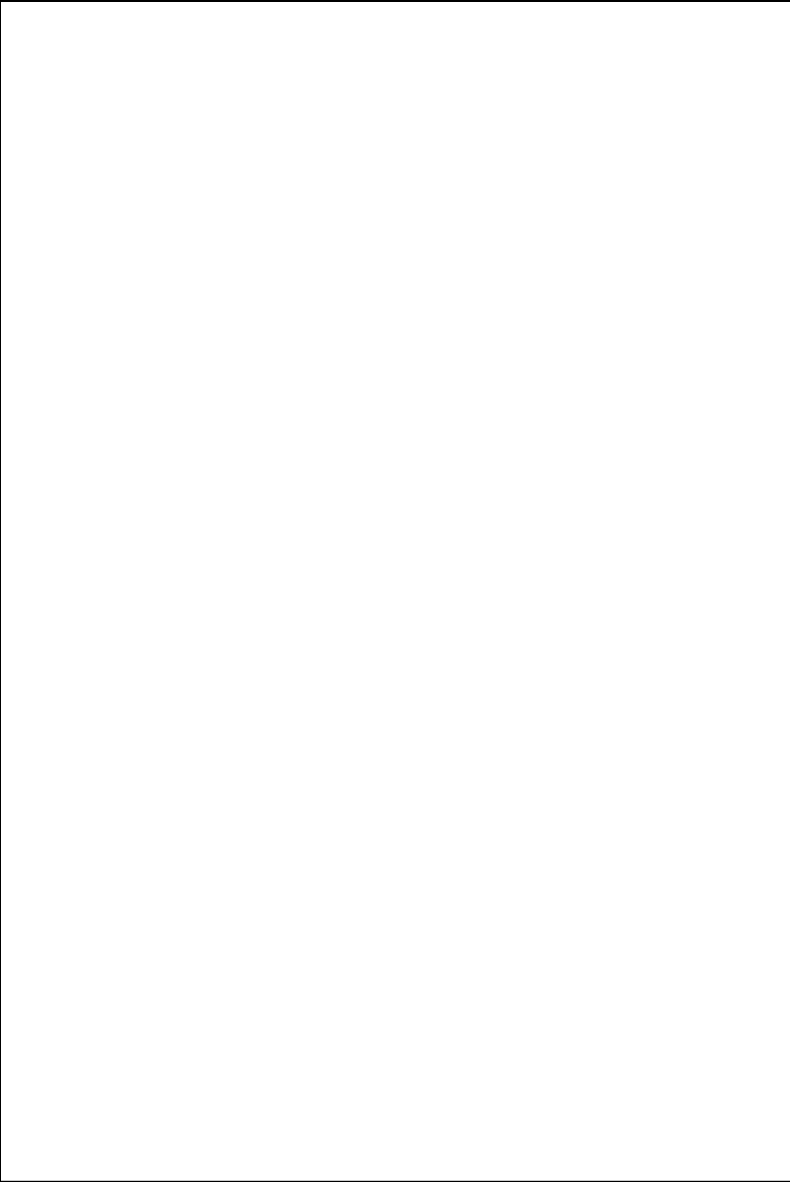
~ A Code of Canon Law, code 867



"Born with a fallen human nature and tainted by original sin, children also have need of the new birth in Baptism to be freed from the power of darkness and brought into the realm of the freedom of the children of God, to which all men are called... The Church and the parents would deny a child the priceless grace of becoming a child of God were they not to confer Baptism shortly after birth."

~ A Catechism of the Catholic Church, p. 1252

View #2 -  
Baptismal  
Regeneration...  
maybe!!  
*(Lutheran)*



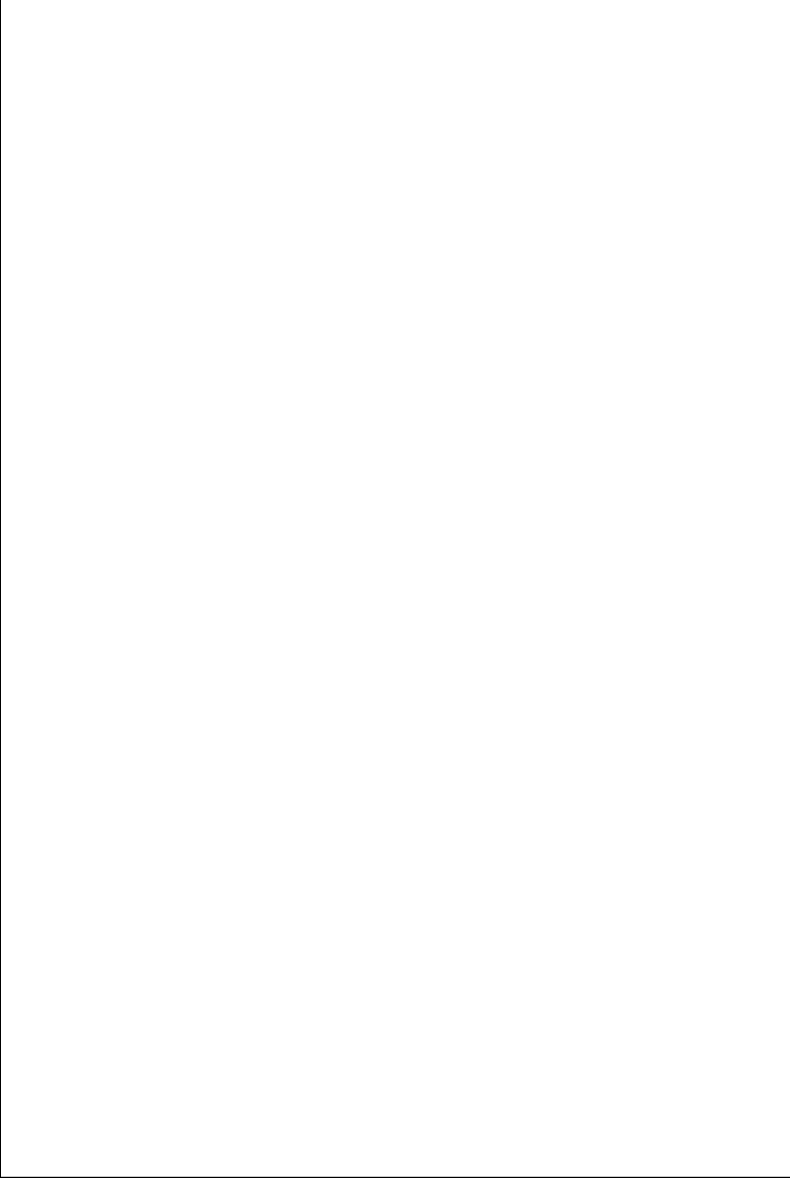
“Baptism is no human trifle,  
but instituted by God  
Himself, moreover, that it is  
most solemnly and strictly  
commanded **that we must  
be baptized or we cannot  
be saved**, lest any one  
regard it as a trifling matter,  
like putting on a new red  
coat.”

~ Martin Luther, “Large  
Catechism”, 1528, p. 100/111)

"To put it most simply, the power, effect, benefit, fruit, and purpose of Baptism is to save. No one is baptized in order to become a prince, but as the words say, to 'be saved.' To be saved, we know, is nothing else than to be delivered from sin, death, and the devil and to enter into the kingdom of Christ and live with him forever."

~ Martin Luther, "Large Catechism", 1528, p. 100/111)





But isn't  
baptism a  
“work”?

“If God can communicate the Holy Ghost to grown persons, he can, a fortiori, communicate it to young children. Faith comes of the Word of God, when this is heard; little children hear that Word when they receive baptism, and therewith they receive also faith.”

~ Luther, *Colloquia Mensa*, paragraph CCCLIII)

View #3 -  
**Sign of the  
Covenant**  
*(Calvin/Reformed)*

"Whether the person baptized is to be wholly immersed, and that whether once or thrice, or whether he is only to be sprinkled with water, is not of the least consequence: churches should be at liberty to adopt either, according to the diversity of climates, although it is evident that the term baptize means to immerse, and that this was the form used by the primitive Church."

~ Calvin *Institutes*, p. 1465

“Peter also says that ”baptism also doth now save us” (1 Peter 3:21). For he did not mean to intimate that our ablution and salvation are perfected by water, or that water possesses in itself the virtue of purifying, regenerating, and renewing; nor does he mean that it is the cause of salvation, but only that the knowledge and certainty of such gifts are perceived in this sacrament...”

**“...we must not deem baptism so necessary as to suppose that everyone who has lost the opportunity of obtaining it has forthwith perished. By assenting to their fiction, we should condemn all, without exception, whom any accident may have prevented from procuring baptism, how much soever they may have been endued with the faith by which Christ himself is possessed.”**

~ Calvin, *Institutes*, p. 1451, 1493

"If, by baptism, Christ intends to attest the ablution by which he cleanses his Church, it would seem not equitable to deny this attestation to infants, who are justly deemed part of the Church, seeing they are called heirs of the heavenly kingdom".

~ Calvin, *Institutes*, p. 1490

View #4 -  
**Declaration of the  
believer's union  
with Christ**  
*(Baptist)*



“The true constitution of the Church is of a new creature baptized into the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost: **The false constitution is of infants baptized**: we profess therefore that all those Churches that baptize infants are of the same false constitution: and all those Churches that baptize the new creature, those that are made Disciples by teaching, men confessing their faith and their sins, are of one true constitution...”

~ John Smyth, “The Character of the Beast”, 1609 (*The Baptists: A People Who Gathered "To Walk in All His Ways."*: *Christian History, Issue 6*, (Carol Stream, IL: Christianity Today, Inc.) 1997)

“On our first entrance upon a Christian profession, we are met by the ordinance of baptism, which teaches the necessity of purification. Baptism is, in its very form, a washing, and its teaching requires cleansing of the most thorough kind. It is a burial, in which the man is viewed as dead with Christ to sin, and is regarded as rising again as a new man. Baptism sets forth, as in a picture, the union of the believer with the Lord Jesus in his baptism of suffering, and in his death, burial, and resurrection...

“By submitting to that sacred ordinance, we declare that we believe ourselves to be dead with him, because of his endurance of the death penalty, and dead to the world and to the dominion of sin by his Spirit; at the same time, we also profess our faith in our Lord's resurrection, and that we ourselves are raised up in union with him, and have come forth through faith into newness of life. It is a very impressive and vivid symbol, but it is without meaning unless we rise to purity of life.”

~ Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit.  
Preached March 12th, 1891

“As long as you give baptism to an unregenerate child, people will imagine that it must do the child good. They will ask, 'If it does not do the child any good, why is it baptized? The statement that it puts children into the covenant, or renders them members of the invisible church, is only a veiled form of the fundamental error of Baptismal Regeneration. If you keep up the ordinance, you will always have men superstitiously believing that some good comes to the baby thereby. And what is that but popery?’”

~ Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit 19:556

“Do not make any mistake, and imagine that immersion in water can wash away sin; but do remember that if the Lord puts this outward profession side by side with the washing away of sins it is not a trifling matter.”

~ Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit  
31:251

“Some lying hypocrites tell us that children are regenerated by drops of water. What kind of regeneration is that? We have seen people hanged that were regenerated in this fashion.”

~ New Park Street Pulpit, sermon #186 - April 4th, 1858

I am amazed that an unconscious babe should be made the partaker of an ordinance which, according to the plain teaching of the Scriptures, requires the conscious and complete heart-trust of the recipient. Very few, if any, would argue that infants ought to receive the Lord's Supper. But there is no more scriptural warrant for bringing them to the one ordinance than there is for bringing them to the other.

~ Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit 47:351

**New Testament Baptism starts with J the B!**



**New Testament Baptism starts with J the B!**



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# New Testament Baptism starts with J the B!

## Matthew 3:1-6

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea <sup>2</sup>and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.”

<sup>3</sup>This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: “A voice of one calling in the desert, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’” <sup>4</sup>John’s clothes were made of camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt round his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan.

<sup>6</sup>Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

**What is being symbolized in baptism?**

# What is being symbolized in baptism?

## Romans 6:1-4

<sup>1</sup>What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning, so that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup>By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? <sup>3</sup>Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

**Does baptism in itself save you?**

# Does baptism in itself save you?

## 1 Peter 3:18-22

<sup>18</sup>For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, <sup>19</sup>through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison <sup>20</sup>who disobeyed long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, <sup>21</sup>and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also — not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience towards God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand — with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

**Why be baptized then?**



# Why be baptized then?

1. Because Jesus did

# Why be baptized then?

## 1. Because Jesus did

### Matthew 3:13-17

<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. <sup>14</sup>But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup>Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented. <sup>16</sup>As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

# Why be baptized then?

2. Because you get to!

# Why be baptized then?

## 2. Because you get to!

### Acts 8:27-38

<sup>27</sup>So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, <sup>28</sup>and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the book of Isaiah the prophet. <sup>29</sup>The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.” <sup>30</sup>Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked. <sup>31</sup>“How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

# Why be baptized then?

## 2. Because you get to!

### Acts 8:27-38

<sup>32</sup>The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture: “He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. <sup>33</sup>In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.” <sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. Why shouldn’t I be baptized?” <sup>38</sup>And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

# Why be baptized then?

3. Because we are commanded to

# Why be baptized then?

## 3. Because we are commanded to

### Matthew 28:18-20

<sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

**Is God calling you to experience  
Him through baptism, or to renew  
your baptismal vows?**