

Children's Message for Lent 1, February 21, 2021

Do you remember what it looks like when I baptize a baby?

Where? *At the baptismal font in front of the altar*

What happens?

Family gathers at font

Questions, Apostle's Creed, prayers

*Pouring warm water over baby's head "In the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"*

Lighting a baptismal candle to remember the day

*Baby's forehead is "sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the
cross of Christ forever."*

In today's gospel (Mark 1:9-15) Jesus is getting baptized by a man named John. We call him "the Baptist" because he baptized a lot of people in the Jordan River. In the time when Jesus was alive as a human being just like us, people came to be baptized when they felt bad about the way they'd been living. They would walk out into the river and John would sort of dunk them in the water. And when they came up, it was like telling everyone there, "Hey, I'm a new person now! I'm going to pay more attention to God and let him lead my life from now on."

When *Jesus* was baptized, everyone who saw it or heard about it would have been thinking, "Hey, this man from Galilee is going to be paying a lot of attention to God. Maybe we can talk to him about how *we* should live now!"

And guess what? Even though Jesus lived a very long time ago, he can help *us* be aware of God. We believe that, because we have been "sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever."

That's pretty cool!