

MIDDLE SCHOOL EDGE

SACRAMENTS: MATTER AND FORM

BAPTISM STATION-

Baptism is the first Sacrament that we receive. This is the most important Sacrament because it marks our very souls as God's. It is the foundation of all the Sacraments and our lives as Christians. We are born with Original Sin and it is in Baptism that we are cleansed from Original sin.

The **Matter** needed for Baptism is: water (flowing). You **MUST** have water in order to Baptize someone. You can't use pop, juice, milk or anything besides pure water. It is the water that *cleanses us from original sin* as water cleanses both physically and spiritually.

The **Form** needed for Baptism is for one to say- "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit". Just pouring water on someone does not Baptize them. One must also say these words while doing it. Generally it is a priest or deacon who baptizes however in life or death situations, any Baptized person can baptize a non-baptized person.

Question: who Baptized Jesus?

Answer: _____

CONFIRMATION STATION-

In the proper order of the Sacrament, Confirmation is the second Sacrament that we would receive. (However most of us it will be the 4th.) Confirmation is the completion of Baptism. While we receive the Holy Spirit at Baptism, we are engulfed by the Holy Spirit at Confirmation. This will be the Sacrament that will complete your initiation into the Catholic church.

The Matter for Confirmation is- Oil (chrism). During Confirmation we are anointed. Oil is poured on to our foreheads and like kings who are anointed when they are sworn in, we are anointed when we are Confirmed into the church.

The Form needed for Confirmation is for one to say- "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit". Generally the Bishop is the one who must Confirm someone. In special cases a priest is given that ability. Without these words or w/o a bishop saying them, Confirmation will not take place.

Question: Who will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to you?

Answer: _____

EUCCHARIST STATION

Eucharist or Communion supposed to be the final Sacrament of Initiation that we receive. However most of us receive Eucharist as the 2nd Sacrament of Initiation and the 3rd Sacrament. Most of you were baptized, then received the Sacrament of Reconciliation, then Eucharist and next Confirmation. The Sacrament of the Eucharist is when God is made present when the bread and wine become Jesus' body and blood. It is spiritual food for us to live. The Eucharist feeds our very souls and draws us closer to God. The reason we are obligated to go to Mass every week to receive the Eucharist is because **WE NEED** the Eucharist; our souls need the Eucharist!

The **Matter** for Eucharist is- Bread (wheat based) & Wine (pure grape). Apple juice and saltines cannot be changed into Jesus' body and blood. Milk and cake cannot be changed into Jesus' body and

blood. In order for the consecration of something to be changed into the body and blood of Jesus, that something must be bread and wine.

The **Form** needed for Eucharist is- “This is my body... This is my blood”. These words prayed over the bread and wine must be done by a man who has received the Sacrament of Holy Order: a priest or a bishop. I cannot say these words over bread and wine and expect they turn into Jesus’ body and blood- nor can you. It must be a priest or bishop.

Question: how often CAN we receive the Eucharist?

Answer: _____

RECONCILIATION STATION-

Reconciliation is a Sacrament of healing. We all sin- it’s inevitable. We all turn from God, miss the mark and make wrong decision. The more we sin the more distant from God we become and the more distant from God we are the more we sin. Reconciliation is the Sacrament where we confess to God (through a priest) that we have done wrong and are sorry. It is in this Sacrament that God gives us grace to heal us. He gives us grace to help us stop sinning. He clears our conscience and puts us right w/ Him. Reconciliation **POURS** grace on us and we can receive it as often as we like. If we have committed a very serious sin, we must go to confession prior to receiving the Eucharist at Mass.

The Matter for Reconciliation is- acts of the Penitent (Contrition (to be sorry), Confession of sins, Amending one’s life and reparation (making an effort to sin no more). One cannot receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation if he/she confesses nothing or is not sorry. You also cannot receive the Sacrament if you plan to do the same sin again. One must say their sins, feel bad about them and really try not to commit that sin again.

The Form needed are the words- “I absolve you of your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” These words need to be said by a man who has received the Sacrament of Holy Order- a priest or bishop. I cannot absolve you of your sins and neither can anyone here. And if you confess your sins to a priest but he does not say these words over you, then the Sacrament has not taken place.

Question: The Sacrament of Reconciliation is usually celebrated where?

Answer: _____

ANOINTING OF THE SICK-

Anointing of the Sick is another Sacrament of healing. While physical healings can occur, it more for healing of the spirit. When one is ill, dying, having emotional or spiritual problems this Sacrament is one to seek. God outpours an abundance of grace on the recipient of the Sacrament to help him/her deal with the problems he/she is having.

The Matter needed for Anointing of the sick is- Oil (oil of the sick). This oil is poured onto the forehead. Without this oil the Sacrament will not take place. This specific oil is blessed at the Holy Thursday Mass during Holy Week. No other oil can be used.

The Form needed are the words- “Through this holy anointing, may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up.” These words must be said by the bishop or priest while anointing the person with the oil/holy chrism.

Question: who can anoint someone?

Answer: _____

HOLY ORDERS:

Holy Orders is one of the 2 Sacraments of Vocation. It is a Sacrament that enables one to live their permanent state of life vocation. Only priests, deacons and bishops are ordained with the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Thus only men can receive this Sacrament. It is in this Sacrament that God outpours a ton of grace that will give these ordained men the ability to administer other Sacraments to people and to live out his call.

The Matter needed for Holy Orders is: laying on of hands. When one is ordained, a bishop will put his hands on the one being ordained. Only a bishop can ordain someone. This sacrament is only received to its fullest if one becomes a bishop. A deacon will receive grace and the Sacrament; a priest will receive more grace and the Sacrament; and a bishop will receive the fullness of the grace and the complete Sacrament.

The Form needed are: the prayer of ordination according to the particular order. Thus when the bishop is laying hands on the person being ordained there is a prayer that he must say in order for the ordination to take place- otherwise he is just a bishop putting his hands on another guy's forehead.

Question: who receives this sacrament fully?

Answer: _____

MATRIMONY:

Matrimony is one of the 2 Sacraments of Vocation. It is by this Sacrament that a man and woman are able to live out a marriage and life together. Only a man and woman together can receive this Sacrament. They must be open to having children and if God gives them children they must promise to raise them in the Catholic faith. They must enter into the marriage by their own freewill. Committing to one person your entire life is difficult- especially with all the ups and downs that come w/ life. In the Sacrament of Marriage God pours grace upon the couple so they CAN together endure the difficult times to come.

The Matter needed for Matrimony is: a bride & groom and for them to have sexual intercourse. The wedding ceremony takes place in the church but it is after that, when the bride and groom have sexual intercourse that they consummate their marriage and the Sacrament of Matrimony is complete.

The Form needed are the: marital vows which includes mutual consent from both parties and mutual reception by a minister of the church. Thus this is when a bride and groom state their vows to each other and both agree freely to enter into the covenant of marriage. This takes place during the church ceremony. Thus in order for the Sacrament of Marriage there needs to be a bride and groom, vows freely said and then the consummation of the marriage (sexual intercourse).

Question: is marriage a permanent sacrament?

Answer: _____

-ANSWER:

- 1) What do you remember about each Sacrament?
- 2) Why do you think Sacraments are relevant to your life right now?
- 3) What was the last Sacrament you received? What do you remember about it?

