

Baptism

Baptism has the oldest historical roots out of any sacrament. It was an Old Testament custom to pour water over peoples head to symbolically wash them of their sins. Remember Jesus himself was Baptised- by the slightly wild character called John The Baptist. Remember John The Baptist is said to have been immediately struck by awe when Jesus came up to him- John realised that Jesus was the promised saviour- the Son of God. It is at this point that it is said a voice from heaven said 'this is my son of whom I am very pleased'.

Baptism is a very popular sacrament in all churches

It 9 times out of 10 is received at the beginning of a persons life - as a baby.

Remember these key facts

- The water is poured over the babies head 3 times (the trinity) to symbolically wash away 'original sin'
- This means the baby is now 'in perfect union with Christ' at the beginning of her/his relationship with Christ
- Baptism is a sacrament of initiation- it signifies the new life of the child as a Christian- a member of the Church- Christ's body.
- God parents are there to renew their promises to follow the way of Christ and help bring the child up in the Christian tradition
- It's a time of coming together for everybody (parents and godparents) to renew their commitment and strengthen their faith.

It welcomes the child (officially) into the church.