Infant Baptism Workbook
Advent Baptism Workbook

The Advent is grateful to be included in this important moment in the life of your family. Baptizing a child signifies so much. It communicates God’s commitment to your child through the grace of Jesus Christ. It demonstrates your decision to raise your child to come to know, love, and trust Jesus. It places your child in the community of God’s people, the church.

Given the richness of this sacramental act, we have prepared this workbook to help you have a better understanding of what is actually happening in the baptism of your child. We hope you will feel a sense of peace and joy in knowing just how deep God’s grace is for your child as you baptize him or her into the covenant of grace. We hope you will have a sense of comfort knowing that you are not alone as you spiritually lead this child. We pray you feel empowered and guided as we offer a bit of direction for your role in spiritually investing in your child.

Within this workbook are “content questions” to help you capture the main points and “discussion questions” meant to help foster a conversation in your family.

You should fill out this workbook and turn in a copy (picture, filled out document) to either the pastoral care office (Robin Turner; Robin@Cathedraladvent.com) or the priest baptizing your baby.
CONTENT QUESTIONS:

1) Andrew talks about an Old Testament practice instituted in Genesis 17 that preceded baptism in the New Testament. What is this practice? What did it mean and demonstrate about God and his people?

2) Cameron talks about Romans 6 and believers being baptized into the death of Christ. What does he say that we are hoping is happening when we baptize a baby?

3) Zac talks about the relationship between God's promises and signs in the Bible. What does baptism function as a sign of?

4) Why does Matt say that it is an “ok” thing to “force your religion” on your child by having them baptized?

5) Zac talks about the relationship between baptism and discipleship. What responsibility does this entail for us as parents with our children? What responsibilities does this entail for the church?

6) Andrew talks about Jesus' calling us to come to faith like a child. What are some connections we can draw between the dependent nature of children and baptism?
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1) Based on what you've heard in this podcast, what are some things that you learned?

2) How did this podcast inform or shape your view of the spiritual side of parenting your child?
CONTENT QUESTIONS:

1) According to Cameron, what is the significance of the word received in Colossians 2:6-7 as it relates to the meaning of baptism?

2) What is the metaphor between baptism and arranged marriage that Cameron makes?

3) What is the image of a seal that Matt introduces and Zac describes? How does it relate to the baptism of your baby?

4) Zac makes an analogy between a road sign and a place. He then applies it to baptism and salvation. What is this connection?

5) According to Matt why is it important to choose believing committed Christian godparents? What does Andrew say about godparents?

6) What does having your baby baptized mean about your family's relationship to the church?
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1) Based on the content in this podcast, how would you articulate in your own words what baptism means for your baby?

2) Who will you choose to be the baby's godparents? What are the spiritual qualities of those people that make them the fitting godparents for your child?
CONTENT QUESTIONS:

1) Matt talks about what to do if you don’t know where to start with discipling your children. What simple advice does he offer?

2) What does Andrew say about discipling kids being either formal / programatic or informal / organic?

3) What does the group say about how your weakness and inadequacy becomes an asset as you spiritually lead your child?

4) What does Zac say about what defines a Christian home and what does not define a Christian home?

5) What are some easy ways to spiritually invest in your child that the group talks about?
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1) Which of your insecurities and inadequacies come to mind as you consider spiritually leading your child?

2) What are some simple spiritual practices you intend to implement with your baby and in your household? (Ex: pray at meals, pray at bedtime, go to church, etc.)
CONTENT QUESTIONS:

1) What does Andrew say about the false notion about baptism and salvation? What words tend to always accompany the order to be baptized in the Bible?

2) Matt talks about Jacob and Esau who were both circumcised (Old Testament baptism) but Esau walked away from God and never trusted in him. What point is he making related to infant baptism?

3) Andrew reads Ephesians 1:13-14: “You also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth the gospel of your salvation. When you believed you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession -- to the praise of his glory.”

What does the group say and this verse indicate about how a person comes into salvation?

4) What is your baby baptized into? What is your baby not baptized into?
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1) What are some new things you may have learned during this podcast episode?

2) Summing up all of these episodes, how would you summarize a biblical view of baptism?