

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION LEARNING STATIONS

Big Idea: We encounter Jesus through the Sacraments of Initiation – Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist

- A. Each student will receive 3 large freezer bags, each one containing ONE of the following student worksheets:
 - [Baptism Stations Student Sheet](#)
 - [Confirmation Stations Student Sheet](#)
 - [Eucharist Stations Student Sheet](#)
- B. Each student will need a pen or pencil.
- C. Show the students the TWELVE learning stations you have set up – 4 stations for each of the 3 Sacraments of Initiation – and go through each one, explaining what they are to do at each one.
- D. Students proceed through the twelve stations, filling in the appropriate information on their Student Sheets at each station. The Twelve Stations will be set up accordingly:

Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism (the following file contains 4 signs, one for each Baptism Station)

[Baptism Stations signs file](#)

1. **Water** – sign, a large bowl of water, small plastic bottles (one for each student); students remove Baptism worksheet from their bags, fill in the information about water, take a plastic bottle and fill it with water; replace the worksheet and plastic bottle in the Baptism bag.
2. **Oil** – sign, small bowl of cooking oil, small pieces of scrap paper (one for each student), napkins; students remove Baptism worksheet from their bags, fill in the information about oil, dip a finger in the oil, press that finger on a small piece of paper to make an oil spot, wipe their fingers with a napkin, replace the worksheet and oily paper in the Baptism bag.
3. **Fire/Candle** – sign, mirror and flashlight, small birthday candles (one for each student); students remove Baptism worksheet from their bags, fill in the information about fire/candle, use the mirror and flashlight for a minute to try to get someone's attention, take one birthday candle, replace the worksheet and birthday candle in the Baptism bag.
4. **White Garment** – sign, a team jersey, small squares of white cloth (cut from handkerchiefs; one square per student); students remove Baptism worksheet from their bags, fill in the information about the white garment, stand up and try on the team jersey, remove the jersey, take one of the small squares of white cloth, replace the worksheet and small square of white cloth in their Baptism bag.

*** when completed, their Baptism bag should include a completed Student Sheet, a small bottle of water, a small piece of paper with an oil spot on it, a birthday candle, and a small square of white cloth**

Sacraments of Initiation: Confirmation (the following file contains 4 signs, one for each Confirmation Station)

[Confirmation Stations signs file](#)

5. **Laying on of Hands** – sign, blank sheets of 8.5 x 11 paper (one per student), small scissors; students remove Confirmation worksheet, fill in the information about the laying on of hands, trace their hand on a piece of paper, cut it out, replace the worksheet and the paper hand in their Confirmation bag.
6. **Anointing with Oil** – sign, [crown patterns](#) (one for each student), scissors, tape; students remove Confirmation worksheet, fill in the information about Anointing with Oil, cut out crown pattern and tape it to form a crown, replace the worksheet and the crown in their Confirmation bag.
7. **Words: “Be SEALED with the Gift of the Holy Spirit”** – sign, small envelopes (one for each student), several coins, a burning wax candle (in the hands of catechist or aide); students remove Confirmation worksheet, fill in the information about the words “be sealed”, take a small envelope, close it, and ask the catechist or aide to pour some wax over the seal, let it dry a bit, and then use a coin to make an impression in the wax, replace the worksheet and the envelope with the wax seal in their Confirmation bag.
8. **Bishop (Crosier)** – sign, pieces of aluminum foil 6 in x 6 in (one for each student); students remove Confirmation worksheet, fill in the information about the Bishop and his Crosier (shepherd’s staff), roll the piece of foil as if rolling a cigar, curve the top into the shape of a shepherd’s staff (like a candy cane), replace the worksheet and the foil crosier in their Confirmation bag.

*** when completed, their Confirmation bag should include a completed Student Sheet, a paper hand, a paper crown, an envelope sealed with wax, and a foil crosier**

Sacraments of Initiation: Eucharist (the following file contains 4 signs, one for each Eucharist Station)

[Eucharist Stations signs file](#)

9. **Bread** – sign, platter with small pieces of pita bread, (at least 2 pieces per student); students remove Eucharist worksheet from their bags, fill in the information about bread, take one piece of pita bread to eat, replace the worksheet back in the bag along with another piece of pita bread.
10. **Table/Plate** – sign, paper plates (one per student), several markers; students remove Eucharist worksheet from their bags, fill in the information about Table/Plate, write “RSVP to MHR” (Most Holy Redeemer) on the plate, replace the worksheet back in the bag along with a small paper plate.
11. **Wine** – sign, red grapes (enough for 2 or 3 per student); students remove Eucharist worksheet from their bags, fill in the information about wine, taste a red grape if they wish, replace the worksheet back in the bag along with another red grape.
12. **Cup** – sign, one large [“contract” with “dotted lines”](#) for students to sign their names to (one line for each student), several pens or thin markers, small paper cups (one per student); students remove Eucharist worksheet from their bags, fill in the information about the Cup, sign their

name to the “contract”, take a small paper cup, replace the worksheet back in the bag along with the paper cup.

*** when completed, their Eucharist bag should include a small piece of pita bread, a small paper plate, a red grape, and a paper cup.**

- E. When students are done with the learning stations, have them return to their seats with their 3 bags.
- F. Lead them through a review of each of the 3 Sacraments of Initiation, inviting them to take a look at the symbols in each bag as you offer the following points:

Baptism

1. Water

- We use water to bathe, it washes us. Baptism washes us clean of original sin
- We drown under water. Water kills. In Baptism, we “die” to our old self.
- Water can bring a dried plant back to life. In Baptism, we receive new life in Christ.

2. Oil

- Oil has traditionally been used as medicine to strengthen and heal. In Baptism, we are strengthened by the Holy Spirit and healed from sin

3. Fire/Candle

- Fire gives off light and was used to light the darkness before electricity. In Baptism, we receive the light of Christ to show us the way.

4. White Garment

- When we put on a team jersey, it means we identify with that team. In Baptism, when we put on a baptismal garment, it means that we identify with Christ.

Confirmation

5. Laying on of Hands

- When kids play “Tag” how do you become “it?” (by being tagged, touched). The game suggests that you can transfer power by touch. The Bible often shows authority, power, or healing being transferred by touch. In Confirmation, the Bishop's hands transfer the power of the Holy Spirit to us.

6. Anointing with Oil

- Back in the day, kings were anointed with oil. In Confirmation, we are anointed with oil to show our share in Jesus’ kingly ministry and our membership in a royal priesthood.

7. Words: “Be SEALED with the Gift of the Holy Spirit”

- Before envelopes came with glue, they were sealed with wax. In Confirmation, we are sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

8. Bishop (Crosier)

- Shepherds use a staff to lead and guide sheep, especially when they wander off. In Confirmation, we are Confirmed by the bishop, our shepherd, to show that the Church leads us and guides us.

Eucharist

9. Bread

- In many parts of the world, bread is the most basic form of food that keeps people alive. Even today in restaurants, bread is free...it is seen as a basic necessity. In the Eucharist, we receive the Bread of Life, Jesus, who feeds and nourishes us.

10. Table/Plate

- Families gather around a table to enjoy meals together. In the Eucharist, we gather around one table – the altar – and join in a meal that makes us one family.

11. Wine

- Long ago, doctors used to use wine to clean wounds and to ease pain. In the Eucharist, the wine becomes the Blood of Christ which heals us and cleanses us from sin.
- Wine is used at gatherings to lift spirits. Moderate drinking can enliven a gathering of people. In the Eucharist, the wine becomes the Blood of Christ which gives us life and lifts our spirits.

12. Cup

- Long ago, before people could read or write and sign contracts, people entered into agreements by engaging in various actions. One such action was to drink from the same cup...a symbol of being committed to one another. In the Eucharist, we drink from the Cup of Jesus' Precious Blood, expressing our commitment to his mission, the Church's mission.

- G. If time permits, invite individuals to come forward with one of their bags and to explain the particular Sacrament of Initiation in their own words, using the symbols in their bag as well as their worksheet.

Supplies checklist

- ☐ 3 large freezer bags per student
- ☐ 3 worksheets per student
- ☐ Pen or pencil per student
- ☐ 12 Stations signs/posters
- ☐ Large bowl of water
- ☐ Small plastic bottles, 1 per student
- ☐ Small bowl of cooking oil
- ☐ Small scrap pieces of paper, 1 per student
- ☐ Napkins
- ☐ Mirror and flashlight
- ☐ Small birthday candles
- ☐ Team jersey
- ☐ Small squares of white cloth, 1 per student
- ☐ Blank sheets of 8.5 x 11 paper, 1 per student
- ☐ 2 or 3 small scissors
- ☐ [Crown patterns](#), 1 per student
- ☐ Tape
- ☐ Small envelopes, 1 per student
- ☐ Pillar candle

- ☐ Matches
- ☐ Several small coins
- ☐ Pieces of aluminum foil, 6 in x 6 in, 1 per student
- ☐ Platter
- ☐ Pita bread cut up into small pieces, 2 per student
- ☐ Small paper plates, 1 per student
- ☐ Several thick markers
- ☐ Red grapes, 2 or 3 per student
- ☐ One large "[contract](#)" with dotted lines, 1 line per student
- ☐ Several thin markers
- ☐ Small paper cups