



## Sacraments of the Church

### Holy Baptism

Holy Baptism is the sacrament by which God adopts us as his children and makes us members of Christ's Body, the Church, and inheritors of the kingdom of God.

If you have a child you wish to present for Baptism, the expectation is that at least one parent is a practicing Christian. If not Episcopalian, it is hoped that the parent(s) will become members of All Saints Church or are desirous of affiliating with All Saints. A minimum of three meetings with at least one parent are required with the parish priest prior to Baptism.

Adults who wish to be baptized must attend New Member classes as would any person over age 18 who wishes to be Confirmed or Received into the Church.

Baptism is celebrated on Holy Saturday evening (The Great Vigil of Easter), Pentecost Sunday, All Saints Day and the Feast of the Baptism of Christ (the first Sunday after the Epiphany). Baptism is normally celebrated within the context of the Mass or Holy Communion.

### Holy Communion

The principal act of worship in the Episcopal Church on Sundays is the Holy Communion or Holy Eucharist. It is also referred to in our Church by other ancient traditional names such as The Mass. Different terms simply refer to different aspects of the same action: a ritual meal based on the last supper of Christ with his apostles.

The Holy Eucharist is the Sacrament given by Christ as sure and certain means by which we receive God's life and favor. Christ for the continual remembrance of his life, death, and resurrection, until his coming again.

From the Gospel of St. Mark at Chapter 14, verses 22:25, regarding the Last Supper:

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

### Confirmation

The Episcopal Church teaches that "Confirmation is the rite in which we express a mature commitment to Christ and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a Bishop."

Persons who are to be confirmed must have been baptized in the Episcopal Church or in another Christian denomination. Adults who have been confirmed by a bishop in the Roman Catholic, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, or any of the Eastern Orthodox churches may be received into the Episcopal Church by the Bishop. This is at the same Service as Confirmation.

Persons who wish to be Received must also attend Confirmation Classes. Classes are for adults 18 and over and are held at a specified time during the Church year. There are generally six to seven one-hour sessions with the parish priest. For further information contact the Rector at [rector@allsaintsindy.com](mailto:rector@allsaintsindy.com).

### Other Sacramental Rites

There are other Sacramental Rites that have evolved in the Church: ordination, holy matrimony, reconciliation of a penitent, and holy unction.

Although they are means of grace (God's freely given life to each person) they are not necessary for all persons in the same way that Baptism and Holy Communion are.

The Book of Common Prayer (pp. 860-861) teaches that God's activity is not limited to these rites; they are patterns of countless ways by which God uses material things to reach out to us. Sacraments sustain our present hope and anticipate its future fulfillment.

