

## KS2 Unit 4, Lesson 6: Baptism

**Context:** In this lesson we are showing how the Christian sacrament of baptism may be practiced differently but represents some shared beliefs.

**Overview:**

- Understand the shared beliefs and differences between Christians who practice "believer's baptism" and infant baptism.
- Know that baptism is a Christian sacrament that shows that someone is joining the Christian Church.
- Understand the symbolism of baptism - water cleansing from sin, buried to old life, rising to new life.
- Know that Christians believe in belonging to both the local church (Christian Community) and the worldwide Christian Church (all Christians everywhere - the meaning of the words Catholic Church).

**Essential core:** Identify how different kinds of Christians do the same things in different ways (baptism) but share many common practices and beliefs.

**Resources:** <http://request.org.uk/life/rites-of-passage/baptism>  
<http://request.org.uk/life/rites-of-passage/believers-baptism>  
<http://request.org.uk/life/rites-of-passage/infant-baptism>  
<http://request.org.uk/life/rites-of-passage/confirmation-video>

**Vocabulary:**

Baptism, sacrament, Godparent

**INTRODUCTION:**

Discuss groups children have joined or belong to. Did they make promises (e.g.: Scouts & Brownies)? Does belonging bring with it rights and responsibilities (e.g.: school)? Today we are looking at what people do when they join the Christian Church. Work through:

<http://request.org.uk/life/rites-of-passage/baptism>

Show a short video of "believers baptism". Why is this called "believers baptism? Why are they being baptised? What is the symbolism of going under the water and coming up again? (Romans 6.4). Why do you think that churches like these do not baptise very young children?

<http://request.org.uk/life/rites-of-passage/believers-baptism>

**BUILD UP:**

Show short clip that explains infant baptism. What does the water symbolise? (1 Peter 3.21). What are godparents? What promises do the parents and godparents make? Why is it so important to members of these churches that their children are baptised?

<http://request.org.uk/life/rites-of-passage/infant-baptism>

In these churches the children will have a chance to make their promises to follow Jesus for themselves when they are older in Confirmation. This is a very short video of confirmation.

<http://request.org.uk/life/rites-of-passage/confirmation-video>

**Differentiation:** Support pupils with an understanding of the difference through additional explanation; another pupil explaining. Ensure the language is understood.

**Plenary & formative assessment:**

Why are Christians baptised? Why is being part of the Christian Church so important to them? What promises are made when they join? What is a Christian?