<https://www.catholicicing.com/catholic-baptism-video/>

January 10 Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. End of the Christmas Season Ordinary time begins Monday. Use the green cloth for your prayer table.

**Gospel Reading**
Mark 1:7-11
Jesus is baptized by John the Baptist.

**Making the Connection (Grades 1, 2, and 3)**

For those baptized as infants, the meaning and importance of Baptism is learned over time. We can help young children appreciate the gift of Baptism by teaching that Baptism made them pleasing to God, who received them as his children through this Sacrament.

**Preparation for Sunday Scripture Readings**

1. Say: ***Today our Church remembers and celebrates an important event in the life of Jesus. Let's listen carefully to this Gospel to see if we can tell why this event was so important to Jesus.***
2. **Read today's Gospel, Mark 1:7-11.**

**A reading from the Gospel of St. Mark**

**Glory to you O Lord. (make a sign of the cross with your thumb on your forehead, lips and heart.**

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: “One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit” It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. On coming out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And the voice came from the heavens “you are my beloved son; with you I am well pleased”.

The Word of the Lord. R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

1. Ask: ***What happened when Jesus was baptized by John?*** (The sky opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus; a voice from heaven announced that God was pleased and said that Jesus was God's Son.) ***How do you think this made Jesus feel?*** (Accept all reasonable responses.) ***Why do you think that this might have been an important event in Jesus' life?*** (Accept all reasonable responses.)
2. Say: ***There was a time in your life when you were made a child of God. When you were baptized, Jesus sent his Holy Spirit to you, and you became God's child. When this happened, God was very happy. Baptism helps us to continue to live in ways that are pleasing to God. What are some of the things we do that please God***? (prayer, learning about God, loving other people)

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