

by obtaining actual grace, forgiveness of venial sins and remission of temporal punishment; that it is a most effective aid in all conflicts with the powers of hell.

A calm and reverent tracing of the Sign of the Cross with holy water upon oneself will often prove most helpful in subduing a temptation.

IN THE HOME

Take an empty bottle to the parish church, and have it filled with holy water, and bring it back home for the spiritual and temporal protection of the family. It should not be tucked away in a remote corner but be made available to all.

Holy water is a Sacramental that remits venial sin. Because of the blessing attached to it, Holy Church strongly urges its use upon Her children, especially when dangers threaten such as fire, storms, sickness and other calamities. Every home should have always in it a supply of Holy Water.

Holy Water has its great power and efficacy from the prayers of the Church which its Divine Founder always accepts with complacency.

THESE ARE SOME OF THE PETITIONS THE PRIEST MAKES TO GOD WHEN HE BLESSES WATER

O God . . . grant that this creature of Thine (water) may be endowed with divine grace to drive away devils and to cast out diseases, that whatever is in the houses or possessions of the faithful may be sprinkled by this water, may be freed from everything unclean, and delivered from what is hurtful . . . Let everything that threatens the safety or peace of the dwellers therein be banished by the sprinkling of this water,

so that health which they seek by calling upon Thy Holy Name may be guarded from all assault.

REMITTS VENIAL SINS

Because holy water is one of the Church's sacramentals, it remits venial sin. Keep your soul beautifully pure in God's sight by making the sign of the cross reverently while saying,

"By this holy water and by Thy Precious Blood wash away all my sins, O Lord."

DISPEL THE DEVIL

The devil hates holy water because of its power over him. He cannot long abide in a place or near a person that is often sprinkled with this blessed water.

DO YOUR DEAR ONES LIVE AT A DISTANCE?

Holy Water, sprinkled with faith and piety, can move the Sacred Heart of Jesus, to bless your loved ones and protect them from all harm of soul and body. When worry and fear take possession of your heart, hasten to your holy water font, and give your dear ones the benefit of the Church's prayers.

THE HOLY SOULS LONG FOR IT

Only in Purgatory can one understand how ardently the poor souls long for holy water. If we desire to make a host of intercessors for ourselves, let us try to realize now some of their yearnings, and never forget them at the holy water font.

When sprinkling holy water for your loved ones, your friends etc. do not forget

HOLY WATER

a Spiritual Treasure

THE DEVIL HATES IT

Holy Water, is a powerful spiritual armour in times of temptations. St. Teresa of Avila, whose temptations were as terrible as anyone's has left us these wise words of counsel: —

"I have found by experience that there is nothing from which the devils fly more quickly than from holy water. They also fly from the cross, but they return almost immediately. Certainly, the power of holy water must be great; for my part, my soul feels particular comfort in taking it, and very generally a refreshment and interior delight which I cannot express."

Long before St. Teresa of Avila, holy water was a sacramental in the Catholic Church. Water, which as a symbol of purification held a high place in biblical times, has retained its rich symbolism.

EARLY USE

According to the Apostolic Constitutions a document dating back well over 15 centuries, the use of holy water is attributed to a recommendation issued by St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist.

The lives of the saints are packed with instances of heavenly protection and blessing secured through the reverent use of holy Water.

KNEW IT FOR A GOOD THING

The saints knew, as we know by faith, that holy water is sanctified by the blessing of the Church; that it benefits the faithful

the Priests, especially those of your own parish, who have served you so faithfully and brought you closer to God, through the Sacraments and Holy Masses etc. In gratitude, you should give them many sprinklings of Holy water daily, several times daily and have Masses offered up for the repose of their souls.

Sprinkle a few drops of holy water and pray fervently: "O God, in Your Mercy multiply these drops into as many drops of holy water as their are souls in Purgatory, and allow them not to feel the pains of Purgatory, as long as the moisture of holy water is present.

WHAT SOME PARENTS DO

Some parents make it a regular routine to sprinkle their sleeping children with holy water. Others install holy water fonts in all the bedrooms and encourage all the members of the family to bless themselves, morning and night and during the day.

Whenever the faithful make the Sign of the Cross devoutly with Holy Water, and pray "In the Name of the Father," etc. gain seven years indulgence. Without Holy Water, only three years. (Raccolta, No. 678, 1952)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND DYING

"Eternal Father I offer Thee the Wounds of Our Lord Jesus Christ to heal the wounds of our souls. My Jesus, pardon and mercy through the merits of Thy Sacred Wounds."
"Jesus, Mary, I love You save Souls."

With Ecclesiastical Permission

TRINITAS

6322 N. Keating Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60646

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