

## Saint Patrick's Church

A Year of the Sacraments  
Christ, Catechesis, Celebration

### A Parish Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, pierce my soul with your love so that I may always long for you alone, who are the bread of angels and the fulfillment of the soul's deepest desires. May my heart always hunger and feed upon you so that my soul may be filled with the sweetness of your presence. May my soul thirst for you, who are the source of life, wisdom, knowledge, light and all the riches of God our Father. May I always seek and find you, think upon you, speak to you and do all things for honor and glory of your holy name. Be always my only hope, my peace, my refuge and my help in whom my heart is rooted so that I may never be separated from you. Amen.

- Saint Bonaventure, 1221-1274, *Desire for Closer Union*.

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Saint Patrick Victor NY  
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Saint Patrick, pray for us!



## A Year of the Sacraments

### X. The Baptismal Vows

To the parents. *In asking for Baptism for your child, you are undertaking the responsibility of raising him (her) in the faith, so that, keeping God's commandments, he (she) may love the Lord and his (her) neighbor as Christ has taught us. Do you understand this responsibility?*

To the godparents. *Are you ready to help the parents of this child in their duty?*

The essence of the Baptismal Vows or Promises is to raise the Baptized so as to live according to the way of Jesus, according to how he formed his disciples after his way of life. We may be two thousand year distant from the time of Jesus' public ministry, but we only need to read the gospels and the New Testament letters to gain a clear sense about the Christian way of life -

**It is the way of prayer.** Jesus regularly communicated with the Father, and through prayer, Jesus discerned the will of the Father. He taught his disciples to pray. He even commanded us to remember him specifically through the prayerful remembrance of his Last Supper and his Sacrifice at Calvary. Jesus left us the sacraments that we may we prayerfully and concretely participate in his life.

**The way of the community.** Jesus called individual disciples and formed them into the community of disciples, the Church. In community, we remember how we are members of His One Body and therefore, how we are members of one another.

**The way of faith.** Jesus showed us how to have faith in God, even when we do not fully know His plan for us. Jesus also taught us how to express our faith by his teachings and actions, that is, through his own life.

**The way of service.** Jesus showed us that service is both pointing others to God as well as helping those in need to live a life that promotes and upholds their human dignity.

**The way of stewardship.** Jesus empowered his disciples with gifts (talents) for the mission. The diversity of gifts enables the Church to effectively and timely respond to the diversity of needs.

These five 'pillars' are good reminders of the way of Jesus. This week, re-read the Precepts of the Catholic Church, and make the connection between these five pillars and the precepts of the Catholic Church.