Chapter 7: God Prepares Water for the Grace of Baptism
God prepared water for the grace of Baptism.

Chapter Summary

Jesus Christ is the center of God's plan of salvation. All God's work in the Old Testament foreshadows the life and work of Jesus Christ to win for us salvation from sin and death. God used certain images, places, events, and people in the Old Testament to foreshadow His work through Jesus Christ and the sacraments. Water is used in the Old Testament to point to and prepare God's people for His work in Baptism. We learn in the Bible how God used water to give life and fruitfulness to His creation, to cleanse the world from sin, and to lead His people to victory over their enemies.

Baptism and Family Life

"It is particularly in the Christian family . . . that children should be taught from their early years to have a knowledge of God according to the faith received in Baptism, to worship Him, and to love their neighbor."[2]

These words from Pope Saint Paul VI beautifully illustrate the connection between Baptism and family life. The family is the "school" in which children nurture their faith, knowledge, and worship of God, as well as their love of God and others. All this begins in Baptism.

On the Family Faith pages in this unit, families will see how the graces of Baptism equip them to live as faithful witnesses to God's transforming power in their lives. As a family, choose two ways from the list below that you can live in your home this week according to Pope Saint Paul VI's words to families:

- Read one or two of Jesus' miracles together.

- Cook a meal for an elderly neighbor.

- Pray for families/individuals who are preparing for Baptism.

- Visit the parish(es) your family members were baptized in.

- Write a thank-you note to your godparents.

- Go to Reconciliation together.

- Parents, tell your children about their Baptism.

- Students, tell your parents about the events in Scripture you learned about in this chapter.

For more family faith formation resources, go to the parent portal.