

Introduction

THE BOOK OF SIGNS: READING THE SACRAMENTS IN JOHN'S GOSPEL
WEEK 1

The Gospel of John

Composed between
A.D. 60 and 120

The “disciple whom
Jesus loved” (21:20)

Son of Zebedee?

Other disciple?

Symbolic figure?

Compiler of
tradition?





The Book of Signs

Chapters 1-12

Revelation of Jesus's identity

Belief or unbelief

John 1:1-14



The Seven Signs

1. Transforming water to wine (2:1-11)
2. Healing of the official's son (4:46-54)
3. Healing of the paralytic (5:1-9)
4. Multiplication of the loaves (6:1-14)
5. Giving sight to the man born blind (9:1-41)
6. Raising of Lazarus (11:17-44)
7. Resurrection of Jesus (20:11-23)



Biblical Typology



“The New Testament lies hidden
in the Old, and the Old
Testament is unveiled in the
New.”

Saint Augustine



Luke 2:41-51

The Sacraments

What is a
sacrament?

“The sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us.”

CCC 1131





Baptism

Matter: Water (immersion or pouring over head)

Form: "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

Effects:

Forgiveness of original sin and all personal sins
Birth into new life as adoptive son or daughter of the Father, member of Christ, and temple of the Holy Spirit

Incorporation into Church and made sharer of Christ's priesthood



Confirmation

Matter: Anointing the forehead with chrism and laying on of the minister's hands

Form: "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Effect: Perfection of baptismal grace



Eucharist

Matter: Wheat bread & grape wine

Form: Invocation of the Holy Spirit and the words of consecration from the institution narrative

Effects:

- Increased union with Christ

- Forgiveness of venial sins

- Preservation from grave sins

- Strengthened bonds of charity with Christ and the Church



Reconciliation

Matter: Audible confession of sins and intention to reform

Form: Prayer of absolution

Effects:

- Reconciliation with God and recovery of grace

- Reconciliation with the Church

- Remission of eternal punishment incurred by mortal sins

- Remission, at least in part, of temporal punishments

- Peace and serenity of conscience and spiritual consolation

- Increase of spiritual strength for the Christian battle



Anointing of the Sick

Matter: Anointing of the forehead and hands

Form: Liturgical prayer over the sick person

Effects:

- Union of the sick person to Christ's passion

- Strength, peace, and courage to endure in a Christian manner the sufferings of illness or old age

- Forgiveness of sins if the sick person was not able to obtain it through the sacrament of Reconciliation

- Restoration of health if conducive to the salvation of the sick person's soul

- Preparation for passing over to eternal life



Holy Orders

Matter: Laying on of the bishop's hands

Form: Prayer of consecration

Effect: Configuration to Christ for the service of the Church



Matrimony

Matter: Mutual consent of the bride and groom

Form: Vows

Consummated by the marital act

Effects:

Grace needed to perfect love and strengthen the indissoluble unity of the couple

Ability to assist one another in attaining holiness of life and in welcoming and educating children