

The Sacraments as Healing

Philadelphia OVBS 2008

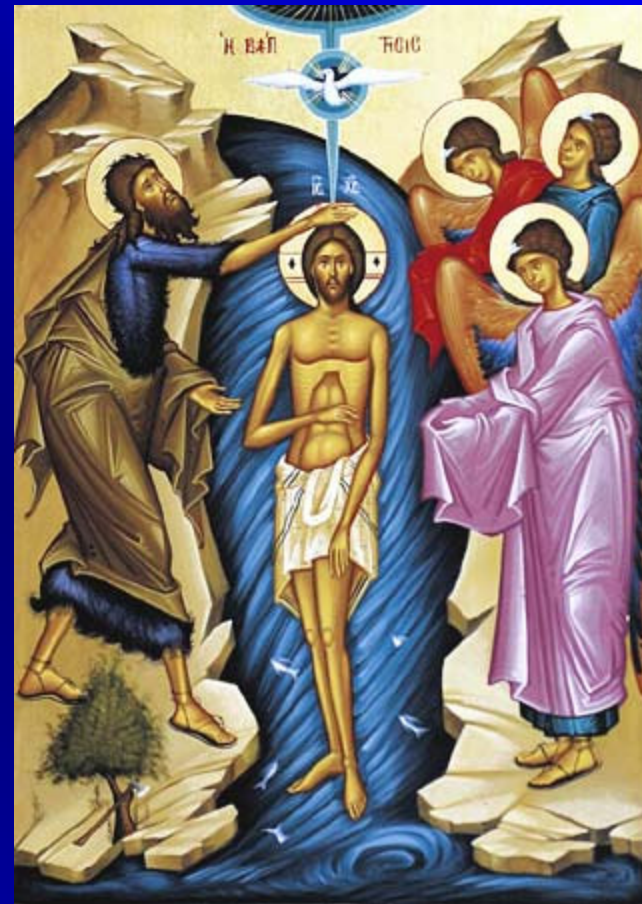


What is a “Sacrament?”

- These are not simply the “rituals” or “ceremonies” of the Church
- *Sacramentum*- oath
- Underlying every Sacrament, there is a central mystery taking place in which the subject is consecrated to its fullest purpose

Name the Sacraments

- Baptism
- Chrismation
- Eucharist
- Matrimony
- Holy Orders
- Unction
- Confession
- Any others???



Sacramentality

- The Holy Spirit has always been active in creation
- Creation itself was a Sacramental act
 - God actively created all things unto His own purposes



The Goal is Restoration

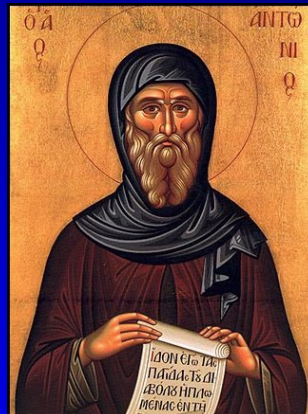
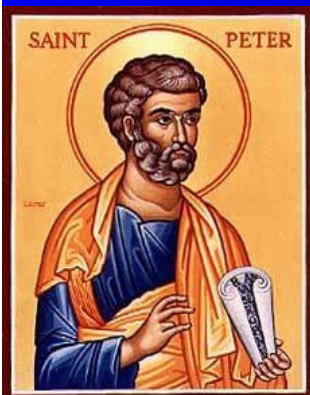
- Christ has triumphed over death, yet we remain sinful
- As Christ has in Himself renewed humanity, he has begun the act of restoring creation
- By our being bound to Him, Sacramentally, we can begin effecting this Salvation within the scope of our existence

A Sacramental Life

- At Baptism we die and resurrect with Christ and are consecrated to live in Him
- We renew our Baptismal covenant from Eucharist to Eucharist
- There is no dichotomy between a Sacrament-centered life and a life lived righteously
 - One in turn must necessarily lead to another

Sacraments of Healing

- Unction
- Confession
- Charismatic Gift of Healing
 - Not a Sacrament, but by God's grace can occur and is not foreign to our experience



Conclusions

- Salvation in general has been accomplished by Christ on the Cross
- By tying us to Christ, Sacraments help us realize this in our lives in preparation for the final consummation of all things in the Second Coming