

From: St. Francis Episcopal Church vicar@stfrancisva.org
Subject: Baptized As A Baby
Date: April 24, 2019 at 7:46 AM
To: mjweatherford16@gmail.com



Is this email not displaying correctly?
[View it in your browser.](#)

The logo for St. Francis Episcopal Church, featuring a red cross with a sunburst pattern behind it, positioned to the left of the word "Francis" in a white serif font. The letter "S" is also in white and partially overlaps the cross. The entire logo is set against a dark blue background.

St Francis





April 24, 2019

Baptized As A Baby

In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

Colossians 2:11+12

Baptizing Babies

The Church has baptized the babies of Christian families since the early days. Household baptisms were a common practice (see Acts 15:16). There is, on the other hand, a vibrant stream of the Christiana Faith which will only baptize adults upon public confession of faith in Christ. We baptize the babies of the Christian families in our church. We also baptize adults who turn to Christ at that stage in their lives who have never been baptized before. Our fellow Christians who baptize adults only would disagree with our practice because they believe there is no biblical basis for baptizing someone before making and adult, public confession of faith. However we do have a biblical basis for baptizing babies.

What The Bible Says

Baptism is called "The Circumcision of Christ" by Paul in the passage from Colossians cited above. Circumcision in the Old Testament was the sign of the covenant God was extending to babies born in ancient Israel. These baby boys were circumcised when they were eight days old. They could not make a confession of faith, but the sign of the covenant of God was still extended to them. They were in a Jewish family where they would hear the story of God's love and take part in the daily life of engaging with God. Later, when they were adults, they would be circumcised in their hearts (Jeremiah 9:26). For us today, we extend the covenant love and mercy of God to the babies of our families, raise them to know Jesus, and look for the day when they will embrace the Christian Faith in their hearts. The adult, public confession of that faith is confirmation.

You and Me

The prompting of God in all of this is to take up the faith in our hearts because he has extended his love towards us. It is to love him because he first loved us. How can you let the Spirit of God increase your love for him today?

Coming Attractions

Sunday, April 28, 2019 Worship at 10:00am

Sunday, May 5, 2019 Worship at 10:00am

The first Sunday of each month, after church, Karen & Chris Webber will be collecting donated food from the Food Lion in Centerville and taking it to the food pantry. This would be an ideal time for anyone in the church to bring in their own donations!! The food pantry is in dire need of cereal, canned soups, and canned vegetables (not generally things donated by grocery stores). If this is something you would like to contribute to, just bring it to church and we would make sure it was delivered to the food pantry.

Please help us in the fun sharing our favorite recipes, in the form of a St. Francis cookbook. Please bring your recipes to the pot luck each month, and give to Libby or Karen. You can also email to lcp@libbyclarkphotography.com.

Centerville Circle of Prayer

For CD's Barbeque that business would increase

The Diocese of Virginia

For the people of All Saints, Richmond; Grace and Holy Trinity, Richmond; Grace, Alexandria; St. Paul's, Alexandria; St. Gabriel's, Leesburg; All Souls, Atlee that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Anglican Communion

For the people of the dioceses of Moray, Ross & Caithness (Scotland) The Most Revd Mark Strange (Primate); Windward Islands (West Indies) The Rt Revd C. Leopold Friday; Wondurba (South Sudan) The Rt Revd Matthew Taban Peter that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

[follow on Twitter](#) | [friend on Facebook](#) | [forward to a friend](#)

*St. Francis Episcopal Church
PO Box 303
Manakin Sabot, VA 23103*

804-784-6116

vicar@stfrancisva.org
www.stfrancisva.org



[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#)

