

The Mystery of Baptism – the Restauration of the Image of God within the Human

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Abstract

By founding the Church, our Saviour has placed the resources for the enlightenment and the sanctification of the people, because within Christ and Church dwells ‘all the fullness of the Godhead bodily’ (Colossians 2, 9). Among the divine resources instituted for the salvation of the human being, the first place is occupied by the Holy Mysteries, with the scope that through them the Christian would obtain the grace of the Holy Spirit.

The Church being ‘the Body of Christ’ (Ephesians 4, 12), through the Holy Mysteries, she does not present as something instead of Christ, but she is fully of Christ who is present and works within. The grace shared to the believer through the Holy Mysteries, being an act of Christ, the invisible celebrant of them is Christ, and the priest is the visible organ in which Christ from the Church works in an invisible way in the Holy Mysteries, or shares His grace those who are receiving it.

Through the Mystery of Baptism, Christ dwells in a mystic way in our hearts, restores the image of the divine, but our progress in the spiritual life is doing with the work and with the impulse of the grace within us. Because ‘no one can say, Jesus is Lord! Except in the Holy Spirit’ (1 Corinthians 12, 3) and ‘no one comes to the Father except through Me’ (John 16, 6) so in this way through the Son we come to know the Father and through the Holy Spirit we know the Son.