

Communion Sunday Craft

Sacrament #1: Baptism

MATERIALS:

- Red and white string/ribbon
- Tape
- Godparent poem
- Hole puncher

PREPARATION:

- Cut strings (each student will need 3 pieces all the same length.)
- Print Godparent poem (*to follow*), cutout, and hole punch at the top of each

Godparent "Narod" Bracelets



REVIEW: Baptism is the first of the 7 sacraments that a Christian receives in our Armenian Church. The parents and Godparents take upon themselves the responsibility of raising the child in a way that he or she comes to know God, Jesus, and the graces of the Holy Spirit. They promise to bring the children to God in accordance with the Orthodox Faith of the Armenian Church.

At one point during the service, the Godparents, on behalf of the child, will declare the Orthodox Faith: The Priest shall ask the Child's Godfather: "What does this child request?"

The Godfather shall answer: **"Faith, hope, love and baptism."**

One of the important symbols associated with baptism is the "Narod," a red (*sacrifice*) and white (*purity*) braided cord with a cross at the end. The "Narod" is placed around the neck of the baptized child by the Godfather. The Narod reminds us of the *blood (red)* and *water (white)* which poured from Christ's side when they pierced Him on the cross with a spear (John 19:34). This also reminds us of Christ's *sacrifice (red)* for us as He died and resurrected to *purify (white)* us from our sins.

DIRECTIONS: Let's make matching "Narod-styled" bracelets to show our Godparents our love! (*If you have enough time, allow each student to make 2 - one to give to a Godparent and one for themselves.*)

1. Give each student 3 pieces of red and white string.
2. Tie all strings together, making a knot at one end.
Tape the knot to a flat surface to hold it in place. (*see diagram to right.*)
3. Separate the **string** into 3 strands or groups.
4. Cross the left **string** over the middle **string**, then cross the right **string** over the new middle **string**.
5. Continue until you run out of string. Tie at the bottom.
6. Tie 2 ends together to make a bracelet.
7. Give each student a Godparent poem. On the back, they may write the name of their Godparent.
8. Attach a copy of the Godparent poem (*to follow*) and have children present to their Godparent.



