

EPISODE 19 – The Door of the Church

1. Many of the Church's sacramental rites begin at the door of the church. Which ones can you name?
 - Although some of the sacraments such as Anointing of the Sick can be celebrated outside of the church, all of them are most always celebrated in the church. So I would say that all seven sacraments can and most often begin, even if only with an entrance and blessing with Holy Water, at the door to the church. The seven sacraments are Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage, Anointing of the Sick, and Holy Orders.
 - This lesson has caused me to think of all the church doors I have entered and the occasions for that entrance. Most often Mass but then there were Baptisms, Marriages, etc. The only one I have not attended would be an ordination. What I have not attended but wish I had had the occasion to would be the dedication of a new church, where the door is blessed and opened for the first time. Perhaps this will be in my future.
2. The crossing of a threshold represents the progression from one place or from one state to another. What significant crossings in the Sacred Scriptures are symbolized in the sacramental life?
 - The Red Sea, Jordan River, Euphrates River, Zered Brook, Ar River, Kidron Brook, and perhaps others. The significance in all of these is a transition, a change in the state or circumstances of life, often filled with faith and hope, the promise of change, of improvement. Such changes or transitions can be seen with each of the sacraments. New life with Baptism. A fresh start with Reconciliation. A connection with the heavenly liturgy and the King of Kings in the Eucharist. Commissioning as a witness to Jesus in Confirmation. A lifelong covenant in marriage and Holy Orders. Healing of body or soul in the anointing of the sick.