**REBORN Homily Talking Points**

**Episode 1 – A New Creation**

* Creation starts, in Genesis, with the Holy Spirit moving over the water. This shows a connection between life-giving water and the Holy Spirit, the giver of life.
* Adam and Eve’s sin brings death into the story. Consequently, we are all born with original sin which is the absence of supernatural life.
* God again uses water to give humanity a fresh start with Noah and his family.
* Moses is drawn from the waters of the Nile as an infant, and he draws Israel out of slavery in Egypt through the waters of the Red Sea—prefiguring Baptism.
* Baptism is a participation in Christ’s death.
* Baptism is a visible action with invisible power, meaning, and grace. It is an essential part of God’s plan to save us and make us a new creation.

**Episode 2 – Entering the Mystery**

* Jesus included Baptism in his last instructions to his disciples showing that Baptism is a necessary part of salvation.
* Baptism is an essential piece of the child’s spiritual well-being, even if the baby can’t choose it for themselves. Similarly, parents take care of their child’s physical well-being without the child’s consent.
* Infant Baptism follows the precedent of the Jewish tradition of infant circumcision.
* Baptism brings us into the family of God. This is demonstrated with the Invocation of the Saints in the Rite of Baptism where the child is welcomed into the whole Church, across time and cultures.
* The parents and godparents renew their own baptismal promises and take on the responsibility of raising the child in the faith.

**Episode 3 – Nurturing the Life of Grace**

* Parents are responsible for the spiritual growth of their children. However, Baptism brings us into the community of faith which has a role also in nurturing the newly baptized.
* The mission of the baptized is to continue the work of Christ as Priest, Prophet, and King.
* Through Baptism we share in the priesthood of all the believers and can offer ourselves daily as a spiritual sacrifice to God through the Mass and our daily prayers.
* We continue the work of Christ as Prophet through evangelization and teaching. Parents have the privilege and responsibility of evangelizing and teaching their children.
* The kingly mission of the baptized is to reign with Christ by conquering sin and practicing servant leadership.
* Being a godparent is a commitment to active participation in the spiritual growth of the baptized.