



**Saint John of the Cross Academy**  
**Composition Assessment for the Dialectical Stage**  
(Revised 4/14/2015)

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. All answers are to be written on a sheet of loose leaf paper.
  2. Pupils are allowed **45 minutes** to read the provided passage and answer the essay prompt in at least 3 paragraphs.
  3. The pupil's work must be submitted either directly to a Tutor, or else can be scanned and emailed to [admin@stjohnofthecrossacademy.com](mailto:admin@stjohnofthecrossacademy.com).
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**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

“The Lord himself affirms that Baptism is necessary for salvation. He also commands his disciples to proclaim the Gospel to all nations and to baptize them. Baptism is necessary for salvation for those to whom the Gospel has been proclaimed and who have had the possibility of asking for this sacrament. The Church does not know of any means other than Baptism that assures entry into eternal beatitude; this is why she takes care not to neglect the mission she has received from the Lord to see that all who can be baptized are ‘reborn of water and the Spirit.’ God has bound salvation to the sacrament of Baptism, but he himself is not bound by his sacraments.” (CCC 1257)

**ESSAY PROMPT:**

**After carefully reading the above passage from the Catechism of the Catholic Church, what are Catholics able to conclude about the importance of Baptism?**