

Baptistry at Florence, Italy [what we are interested in (**Baptistry**) starts at 1:30 of the video]
Rick Stevens notes: The Baptistry was separate because you **had to be baptized** to enter the Church.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sm_m3F15_OE 3:50 min

As it starts you can see the restoration work on the outside. It is **1000 years old**.
Inside mosaics were like **BOOKS** for those who couldn't read. Most people couldn't.
As I was standing there I saw this tall man. Had to be German, so I said: Can you believe here we are standing in a building 1000 years old and looking at mosaics almost as old? [FINISHED in 1200s]
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lhkGQ8yzN1Y> 6:15 min
It turns out that he taught at a Waldorf School in Germany. I am sure I am one of a few Americans who know Rudolph Steiner and his theories of education. So that was a plus for America!

There is a gigantic Baptismal Tub of carved stone.
So high you probably had to climb a ladder to get into it, about 4 feet deep.



The font situated as it is in the Baptistery
I remembered it, but I really had to search to find these pics.



Close up of the carvings showing John Baptizing Jesus

BAPTISMAL FONT ~~~~ DETAIL OF PRE-RENAISSANCE RELIEFS BY ANDREA PISANO (c. 1330)
BAPTISTRY OF ST. JOHN ~~~~ BASILICA DI SANTA MARIA DEL FIORE ~~~~ FLORENCE, ITALY

The mosaics were the Catechism Books—and the exam.

You had to show that you understood the 'stories' to be baptized.

The Priests explain in this video, using Close ups of the Mosaics, how they tell “XT’s Story”.

These Mosaics were “The Bible” that people read—before printing!

The mosaics show various scenes from the Gospels. If you could remember the mosaics, you knew how the story of Christ’s life went: from Bethlehem to Calvary into Glory.

You were then baptized.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wFq-LpkISg4> 4 min

4 mins on the mosaics, no dialogue. Imagine yourself looking up and “reading Your Picture BIBLE”!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=juzItP6QHAE>

The **GATES of Paradise**, by Ghiberti are very important art works, but not our focus here.

{The H after the G means it is pronounce as in **G**ate, not **G**em. His name sounds like **G**ilbert. }

The video here is a good explanation of the doors, how they told people of that time Salvation History.

Copies were made from the doors in Florence; these copies are in San Francisco.

Academy of Art University

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3jIT-s9jGfI>