

Christ is baptized in the Jordan River!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian kids. Copyright 2026 Alexandra Houck. Email is [orthodoxchildrensword\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:orthodoxchildrensword(at)gmail.com). Find it each week at orthodoxchildrensword.org.

The Children's Word

"Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them, for to such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Mark 10:14

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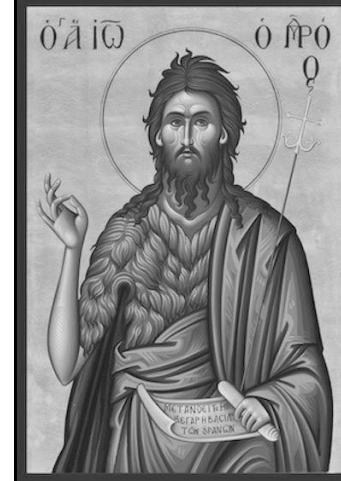
Give God the glory!

Have you ever had to admit somebody was better than you are at something? Maybe you lost an arm wrestling match, or maybe you lost a race. Maybe you lost at a spelling bee or another contest. It is humbling when we have to admit somebody is better than we are!

Today's Gospel reading tells us about a saint who always admitted that God was better than he is. Saint John the Baptist, remember, came before his cousin, Jesus. But he told everybody about Jesus. He said, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie."

Saint John knew that Christ was better than he was. He knew that Jesus Christ is God. So he knew that Jesus Christ had the real power from God! In our Church, we know that Saint John is a great saint. His icon is always on the iconostasis right next to the icon of our Lord. We pray to him in lots of our prayers. We know he is a great saint...but what made him great was that he knew God was better! Saint John gave God the glory.

We can give God the glory every day too. We can always remember that God gives us everything. God helps us be strong. God helps us be smart. God helps us help others. Let's give God the glory, like Saint John did, too!



WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

Angels
Baptist
Feastday
Forerunner
Holy Trinity
Holy Water
John
Jordan
Showing
Theophany

B	P	S	W	H	D	N	F	F	Z	J	O	R	B	N
G	A	K	N	J	K	A	E	O	K	I	L	X	N	Q
Z	Q	P	H	F	I	D	A	R	S	S	Q	F	Q	E
A	C	H	T	R	G	R	S	E	K	C	X	R	Q	V
Q	Y	C	F	I	T	O	T	R	A	Z	P	H	H	B
A	U	L	X	F	S	J	D	U	B	Z	W	O	B	G
U	D	O	U	N	S	T	A	N	K	E	L	B	J	H
S	A	N	G	E	L	S	Y	N	G	Y	P	H	B	Q
W	H	R	W	F	H	G	U	E	T	C	U	P	N	Z
N	N	W	T	A	N	S	P	R	A	P	D	O	S	K
S	H	A	S	I	I	Y	I	F	L	L	B	I	H	C
I	T	O	W	Q	B	N	Q	M	W	R	S	P	W	T
T	D	O	J	S	I	R	E	T	A	W	Y	L	O	H
A	H	B	W	T	H	E	O	P	H	A	N	Y	P	M
S	O	A	Y	R	L	P	P	Q	K	L	T	G	K	V

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

When you look at the icon of the Theophany, have you ever noticed the angels standing on the shore?

They are standing, ready to serve the Lord!



HOLY THEOPHANY

GOD SHOWS HIMSELF TO US!

What is your favorite day of the year? You might say your birthday or Christmas, but in the early Church even bigger than Christmas was Theophany, when we celebrate the baptism of our Lord, Jesus Christ. As Christians, we know how important this day is!

We remember how important Holy Theophany is by the name! "Theophany" means showing of God. When our Lord was baptized in the Jordan River, God showed Himself to the world. God the Father showed His voice. God the Son was Jesus in the water. God the Holy Spirit was shown by the dove over Jesus's head. God showed Himself as the Holy Trinity to us. That's why it is called Theophany!

This week, our priest will bless the water to make it holy. We might take a little bottle of holy water home with us to bless us and our homes. When we have holy things, we know that God is still showing Himself to us! God blesses us every day, so Theophany, or "showing of God," isn't just a day long, long ago. God still shows Himself to us today, when He blesses us and our families! Let's ask God to bless us and to show Himself to us.

We celebrate Holy Theophany on Tuesday, January 6th (OC: January 19th).

