



Friends of Jesus and Mary

Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist- June 24, 2018

Isaiah 49: 1-6; Psalm 139; Acts 23: 22-26; Luke 1: 57-66,80

When the time arrived for Elizabeth to have her child she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy toward her, and they rejoiced with her. When they came on the eighth day to circumcise the child, they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother said in reply, "No. He will be called John." But they answered her, "There is no one among your relatives who has this name." So, they made signs, asking his father what he wished him to be called. He asked for a tablet and wrote, "John is his name," and all were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened, his tongue freed, and he spoke blessing God. Then fear came upon all their neighbors, and all these matters were discussed throughout the hill country of Judea. All who heard these things took them to heart, saying, "What, then, will this child be?" For surely the hand of the Lord was with him. The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the desert until the day of his manifestation to Israel.

Reflection

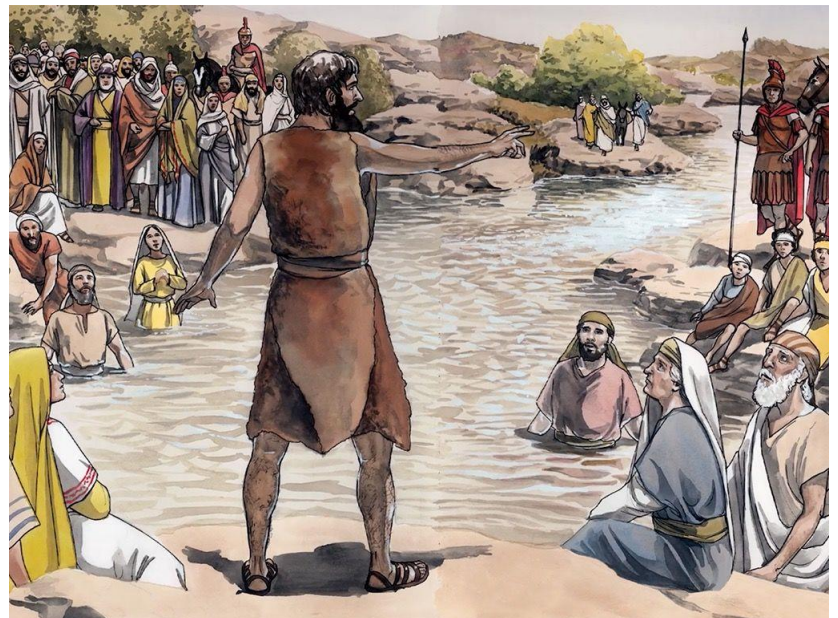
Talk with the children about the people for whom they are important. Has their mom told them sometimes how she prepared for their birth? Why did they give them the name they carry? Why are names important? Speak about how John had a mission even before he was born. Do they have some mission, something they know they must do? What would they like to do when they grow up?

Activity

Act out John announcing the coming of the Messiah. He asked them to stop disobeying God, to confess their sins, and to be baptized. Ask the kids what they need to change. Write on the feet (following page), things they can change or things they can do to better follow Jesus and live their mission.

Prayer

Thank God for the family and the name that they gave me the day of my baptism. Help to grow wealthy as John to understand my mission every single day of my life. **Amen**

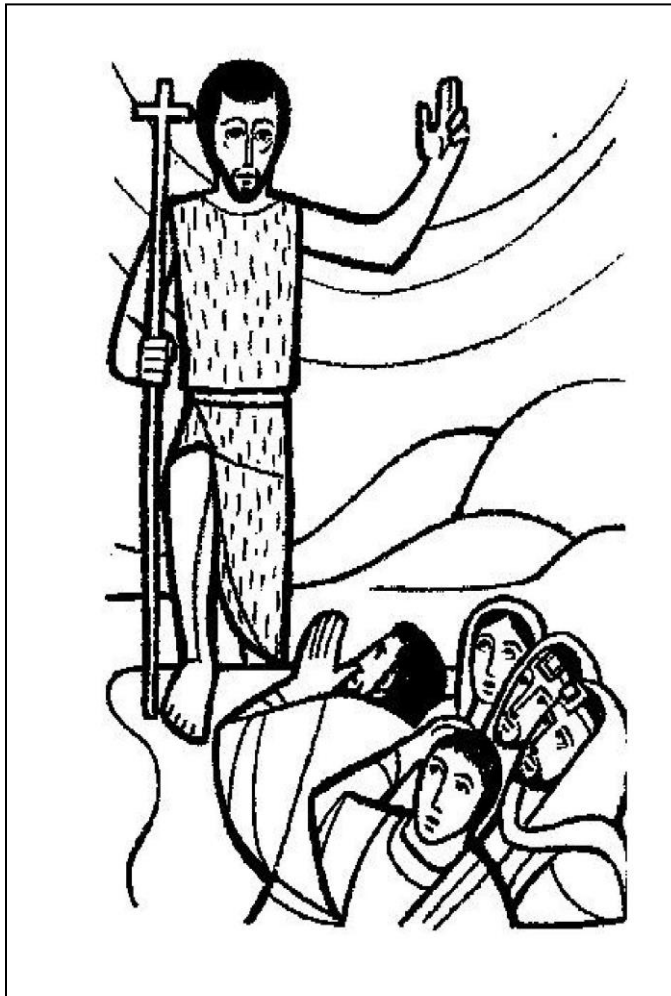




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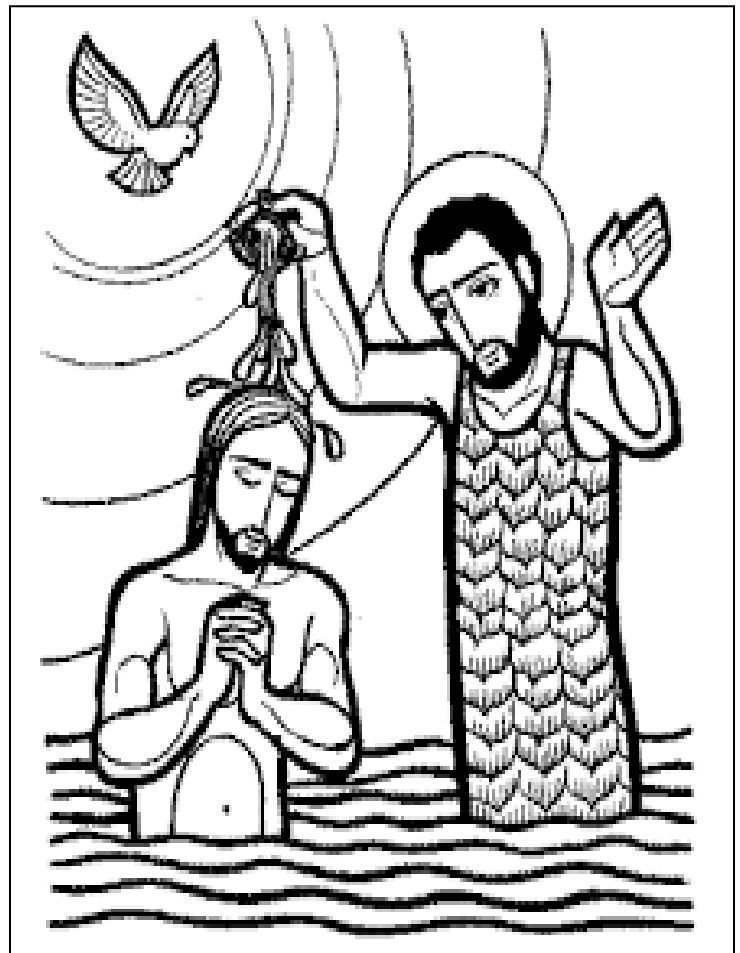


Florida Center for Peace



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST JUNE 24

In the words of Isaiah the prophet,
"I am the voice of one calling in the
wilderness, 'Make straight the way
for the Lord.'" (John 1:23)



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