

St John the Baptist

Faith Seeking Understanding

By

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On June 24th we celebrated the feast day of St John the Baptist, the Patron Saint of our Parish.



We know a lot about St John the Baptist but would you recognise him in a painting? There are a couple of clues that artists throughout history have often used to show their audience that this was Saint John the Baptist. He was known for wearing rough clothing made from Camel Hair. Usually he was pictured baptising Jesus or pointing his finger. The pointing finger was meant to tell us that St John the Baptist was the one who pointed us towards Jesus Christ our Saviour. John knew that the Messiah was coming and was encouraging people to repent and be ready for this coming. Often in a painting he is pointing towards a lamb which represents Jesus The Lamb of God. Next time you are looking at one of the images of St John the Baptist you might like to see if any of these clues are being used.



This word search contains many words that relate to the life of Saint John the Baptist. He was born to elderly parents, Zachariah and Elizabeth. Zachariah doubted the angel who told him his wife would conceive and was struck dumb until after John was born and named. John spent his youth in the wilderness eating locusts and wild honey and wearing clothing made from Camel hair. When he appeared publicly he began preaching repentance and began baptising people. John was Jesus' cousin and baptised Jesus in the Jordan River. People wondered if John was the Messiah but he was a humble man who would point them towards Jesus the true Messiah. Unfortunately some didn't like what he had to say and he was imprisoned and martyred after he was beheaded.

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

BAPTISING
 CAMELHAIR
 DOUBT
 ELIZABETH
 JOHN
 MARTYRED
 PREACHING
 SAINT
 WILDHONEY

BEHEADED
 COUSIN
 ELDERLY
 HUMBLE
 LOCUSTS
 POINT
 REPENTANCE
 WILDERNESS
 ZACHARIAH