

FEAST DAY - ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

24[™] JUNE

O God, You raised up your Servant St John the Baptist,

To prepare a perfect people for Christ. Fill your people today, with the joy of possessing his grace, and direct the minds of all the faithful in the way of peace and salvation.

Grant us, Lord, that we might worthily profess our Faith in You, and lead others to Christ as St John the Baptist lead so many to faith in Baptism. Amen. **ST JOHN THE BAPTIST. PRAY FOR US.**

St. John the Baptist

He baptized people in the river Jordan by immersion

That's how he got his name

John means '**God is** gracious'

John's father, **Zechariah** was struck dumb (*literally*) because he thought that he & his wife were too old to become parents

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Born in the New testament, John finds reference in the Old Testmant as:

A VOICE THAT CRIED OUT IN THE WILDERNESS, "PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD"

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John's mother, Elizabeth was Mary's cousin. That makes John second cousin to Jesus

As a Nazirite, John

- Take wine
- Cut the hair of his head
- Touch the dead

John wore a "camel's hair" garment, secured by a leather belt. His diet was locusts and wild honey He showed people the error of their ways particularly Herod which is why he landed up in prison and was ultimately beheaded

Here ales

John's mission can be summed up by one word: "Prepare"

John the Baptist is the perfect example of the kind of person who leads others to Jesus

A very popular way of celebrating his feast is jumping into a well