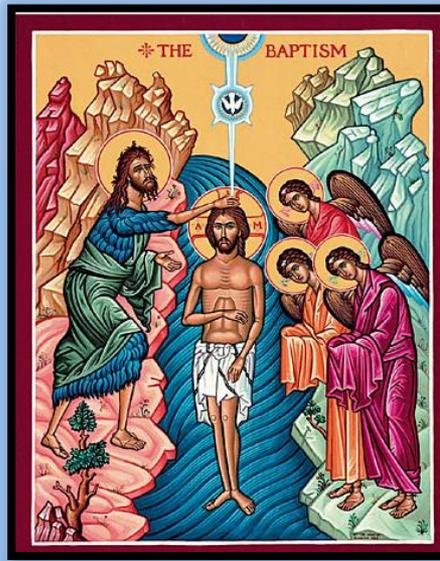


BIOGRAPHY

John is baptizing. Jesus cometh. He cometh that He may make holy him who baptiseth Him; He cometh to bury the old Adam in the waters; He cometh to hallow the blessed flood of Jordan. He Who is Flesh and Spirit cometh to open for all that should ever be baptized that power of generation whereby new peoples are constantly begotten of water and the Holy Ghost. The Baptist will not receive Him. Jesus striveth with him. I, saith John, have need to be baptized of Thee. Thus speaketh the candle to the Sun, the voice to the Word. Jesus came up out of the water, having, in a manner, washed the whole world, and brought it up with Him. And He saw the heavens opened not divided, even those heavens which Adam had once shut upon himself and us his descendants, when the cherub's fiery sword barred the gates of Paradise. And the Holy Spirit bare witness, witness unto Him Who is of One Substance with Himself. And witness was given from Heaven, unto Him that came down from heaven. (St. Gregory of Nazianzus, Patriarch of Constantinople.)



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

FEAST DAY:
13 JANUARY (1962)
SUN AFTER 6TH JAN
(1969)

COLLECT

○ **God**, Whose Only-begotten Son appeared in the substance of our flesh, grant, we beseech Thee, that we who acknowledge His Outward Likeness to us may deserve to be inwardly refashioned in His Image: Who Liveth and Reigneth with Thee, in the Unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end. Amen

PRAYER TO

○ holy Baptist, what joy filled thy heart when thy Cousin, the Saviour, came unto thee to be baptised by thee. And in thy humility thou didst ask to be baptised by Him, but He enlightened thee as to the right way of things. Even then, thou, Precursor of Christ, didst baptise even God Himself, yea, unto the joy of Angels. Grant to us to be precursors to the Second Advent of Christ, that we may make straight the road upon which our King shall return to liberate His Church from all His enemies. Let us be like unto thee, holy John, to love and serve Him who wast baptised for our salvation. Amen