



ΕΠΙΦΑΝΥ / ΤΗΕΟΡΗΑΝΥ
ΑΓΙΑ ΤΗΕΟΦΑΝΙΑ

JANUARY 6

NAME _____ GRADE _____



Epiphany / Theophany

January 6

Epiphany or Theophany commemorates Jesus's baptism in the River Jordan, and the beginning of His earthly ministry. The word "Theophany" means "appearance from God" in Greek.

John the Baptist was six months older than his cousin Jesus. He lived in the wilderness since his childhood. When he was 30 years old, he received a command from God and went to the area of Jordan, where he preached and baptized many people. At that time, Jesus left Galilee and went to Jordan to be baptized. It was the first time that Jesus was meeting John the Baptist. At the time of His baptism, the Heavens were opened, the Holy Spirit descended in the form of a dove, and the voice of God was heard saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (*Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11, Luke 3:21-22*)

At the baptism of Jesus, the Holy Trinity appeared clearly for the first time, God the Father (the voice from Heaven), God the Son (Jesus) and God the Holy Spirit (the dove).

In this mystic commemoration of this event, the Great Blessing of Water is performed on this day. The blessed Holy Water is used by the priests to bless the homes of the faithful.

Icon - <https://www.orthodoxmonasteryicons.com/products/baptism-of-christ-theophany-icon>

<http://orthodoxwiki.org/Theophany>