

The Feast Day of Theophany

Theophany is the name of the feast day that celebrates when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River. Look at the words of the Troparion to learn more about what happened. The dashes will help you know how long to sing the words.

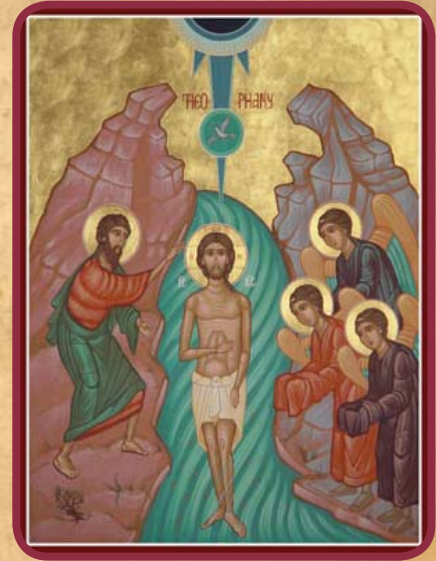
Theophany Troparion

When Thou, O Lord, wast bap - tized in the
Jor - dan, the wor - ship of the Trin - i - ty was made
man - i - fest.

The voice of the Fa - ther did bear wit - - - ness un -
to Thee, and called Thee His be - lov - ed Son.

And the Spir - it, in the form of a dove, did con - firm
the con - stan - cy of the words.

O Christ our God, Who didst ap - pear and
il - - lu - mi - nate the world, glo - ry to Thee, O Lord.



On the day of Theophany we learned that God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We also learned that when Jesus stepped into the Jordan River, the water was made clean. On the feast day, January 6, we remember that one day all of nature will be made clean and new again. Here is how we celebrate the feast.

AT CHURCH. At the service of the feast, we pray as Father dips the handcross in a large bowl of water. In this way, the water is made holy. Then Father sprinkles water on the walls of the church and on us, as a blessing. We also drink some of the holy water.



OUR HOUSE BLESSING. In the days after Theophany, Father comes to our homes. We need to prepare for this special visit. Look at the checklist on the right.

Father blesses our home because it is to be a holy place, where we "commend ourselves, each other, and all our lives unto Christ, our God." Each year we are refreshed and renewed with the holy water of Theophany.

Checklist for Father's Visit

- we set out a white tablecloth
- we place a bowl and candle on the cloth, and a donation
- we turn off anything making noise, or distracting, and turn the lights on in each room
- we gather the family together, pray, sing, and as Father goes into each room, we point out where the icons are

