## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST



"He must increase but I must decrease."

John 3:30

A long, long time ago, the prophet Isiah wrote that, in the future, a man would come and help lead people to the Savior.

Before that man's birth, an angel appeared to his father, Zechariah, and told him his wife, Elizabeth, would have a son, even though she was old. The angel told him to name him John, and that he would be very important.

As John grew up, he spent time outdoors, away from civilization. He lived alone in the desert for most of his life. John moved back to the city once Jesus was preaching. John knew Jesus very well. In fact, they were close in age and cousins! John helped prepare people to meet Jesus by offering baptisms in the Jordan River - which is where he got his nickname: John the Baptist. Being baptized meant you were officially a follower of Christ.

A lot of people thought John was the Savior because he was so smart and faithful. John had to explain many times that he was not the Savior, but Jesus was. He would tell them how amazing, powerful and loving Jesus was.

One day, Jesus visited John at the river and asked John to baptize him. John was completely awestruck and did not feel worthy to baptize the Son of God! When John dunked Jesus under the water, the Holy Spirit appeared as a dove, the sky opened up and a beam of light shined down upon them with a voice from the Heavens saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Pray through the intercession of St. John the Baptist to become closer to Jesus.

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