

O God,
You raised up St. John the Baptist
to prepare a perfect people for Christ.
Fill your people with the joy
of possessing His grace,
and direct the minds of all the faithful
in the way of peace and salvation.

Grant that as St. John was martyred
for truth and justice, so may we
energetically profess our Faith in You,
and lead others to the Way,
the Truth,
and Eternal Life.



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Venture Forward in Faith

Adult Catholic Education seminars at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs

S2: BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD

*On Christology, the Symbolism of Christ,
and John the Baptist as a Model*

SCRIPTURE

John 1:29 - 34

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "**Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.** He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.' I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel."

John testified further, saying, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God.

Isaiah 53:5, 7

But he was pierced for our sins, crushed for our iniquity. He bore the punishment that makes us whole, by his wounds we were healed. Though harshly treated, he submitted and did not open his mouth; Like a lamb led to slaughter or a sheep silent before shearers, he did not open his mouth.



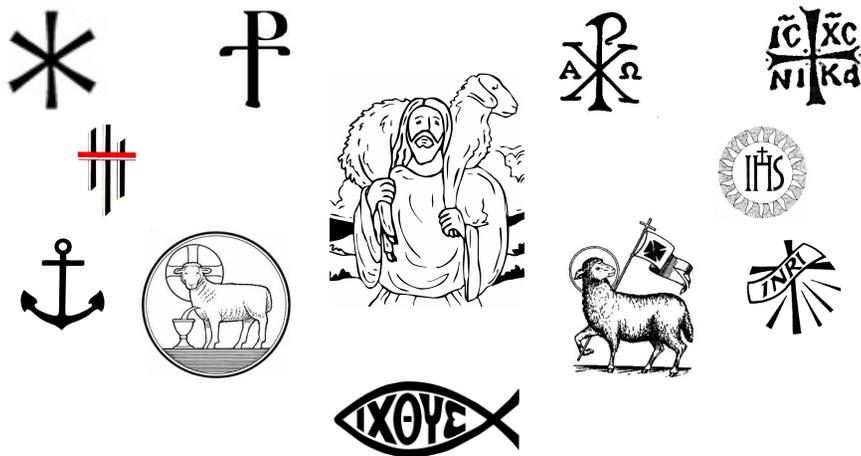
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CATECHISM SELECTIONS ON JOHN THE BAPTIST

John the Baptist is "more than a prophet." In him, the Holy Spirit concludes his speaking through the prophets. John completes the cycle of prophets begun by Elijah. He proclaims the imminence of the consolation of Israel; he is the "voice" of the Consoler who is coming. As the Spirit of truth will also do, John "came to bear witness to the light." In John's sight, the Spirit thus brings to completion the careful search of the prophets and fulfills the longing of the angels. Finally, with John the Baptist, the Holy Spirit begins the restoration to man of "the divine likeness," prefiguring what he would achieve with and in Christ. John's baptism was for repentance; baptism in water and the Spirit will be a new birth.

SYMBOLS OF CHRIST



Ἰησοῦς Χριστός Θεοῦ Υἱός Σωτήρ

Jesus Christ, of God the Son, Savior

S2: Behold the Lamb of God

On Christology, Symbols of Christ, and John the Baptist as a Model

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

POPE FRANCIS ON JOHN THE BAPTIST

John was a man who prepared the way for Jesus without taking any of the glory for himself. John was just "a voice" who had come "to prepare the way of the Lord."

Just before his death in prison, John is filled with doubt and sends his disciples to ask Jesus if he really is the chosen one. John is humiliated through his death but also in the darkness of his doubts, yet he remains a model for Christians today.

We too must prepare the way of the Lord, we must discern the truth and we must diminish ourselves so that the Lord can grow in our hearts and in the souls of others.