

# Clean water

Ezekiel 36: 22-28

Old Testament Story Time

Ezekiel was a priest of the one true Lord God in the ancient nation of Israel. He first lived in the city of Jerusalem in order to one day serve in the Temple of the Lord. But then something terrible happened! The Babylonians attacked Jerusalem and conquered the people of Israel. Ezekiel was taken into exile along with many other prisoners.



While living in exile in Babylon, the Lord God came to Ezekiel in a vision. The Lord commissioned Ezekiel to be His prophet to the people. The Lord wanted Ezekiel to help the people learn what they did wrong in order to turn back to God and follow His commandments.

In one vision, the Lord showed Ezekiel that because the people of Israel broke the covenant with the Lord God, His presence left the Temple in Jerusalem. Therefore, the Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed. But God did not abandon His people completely, rather His presence also went into exile in Babylon.

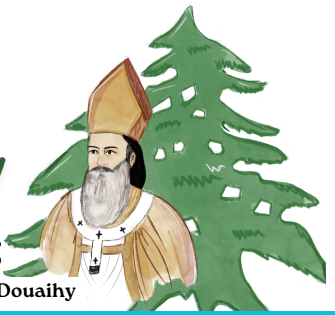
The Lord God then wanted to give His people hope for the future! So the Lord gave Ezekiel a message for His people. The Lord promised He would raise up a new King of David to be a new leader for His people. Through Ezekiel, God tells his people how one day He will gather them from all the lands and bring them back to their home in the land of Canaan. The Lord says to the people:



“I will sprinkle clean water over you to make you clean; from all your impurities and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ... I will put my spirit within you so that you walk in my statutes, observe my ordinances, and keep them. You will live in the land I gave to your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God.”

By the sprinkling of this clean water, the people of Israel will be renewed and restored.

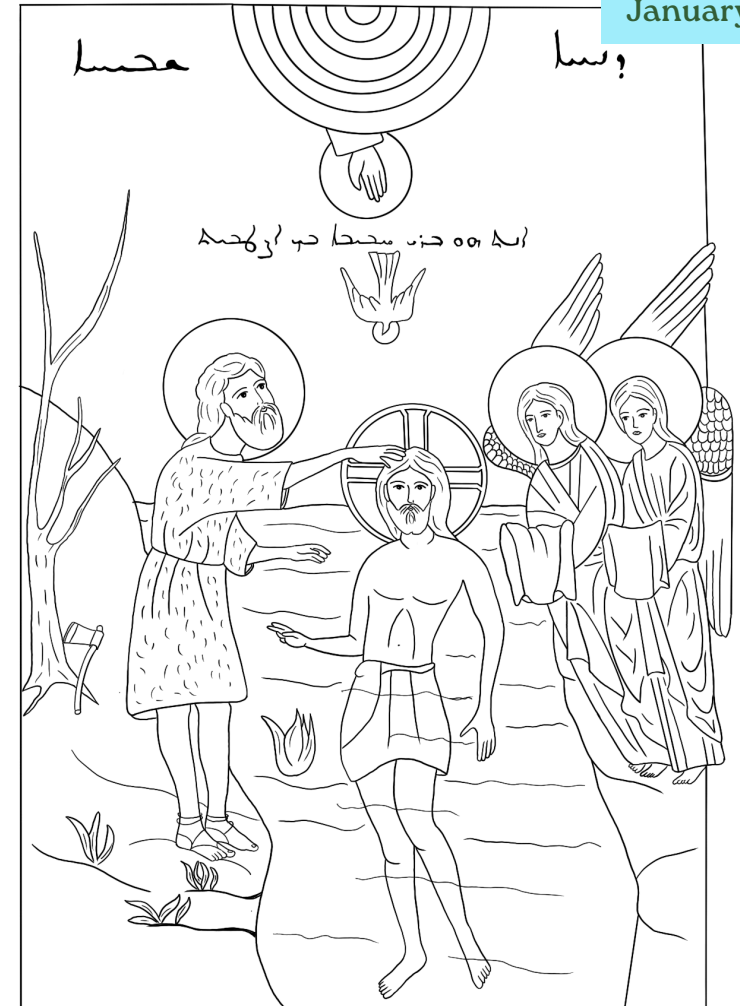
# Cedar Kids



The Way of Blessed Estephan Douaihy

Glorious Epiphany of the Lord, Vol 1, No.14

January 6th



**You came as the Light who enlightened all the world and brought back the people who were lost in sin. You revealed the Trinity.**

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# Gospel Corner

Luke  
3:15-22

Today we celebrate the feast of the Glorious Epiphany. One definition of the word “epiphany” is “a revealing scene or moment.” Do you know what revealing moment we are celebrating today?

In today’s Gospel reading, we have jumped forward a few years from our last encounter with Jesus in the Temple when he was 12 years old. Now Jesus is around 30 years old and is preparing to begin his public ministry.

Do you remember the last time we saw Jesus and his cousin John together? It was when they were each inside their mothers’ wombs and John leapt for joy when Mary, who was pregnant with Jesus, came close to his own mother, Elizabeth.

In today’s reading, John and Jesus meet again. Jesus approaches John in the wilderness and insists on being baptized, but John feels unworthy to do such a thing. Even so, John obeys and when Jesus comes up out of the water, the revelation happens.

The Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, descends from heaven and hovers over Jesus. Then a voice comes from heaven and says, “You are my beloved son; with you I am well pleased.”



We see two amazing events in this moment. First, Jesus has now been revealed to us as God’s Son and secondly, we see the Holy Trinity clearly revealed for the first time in the Bible. The Holy Trinity is the three persons of God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Can you figure out where we see each of them in this reading? (Hint: you can find them in the icon coloring page on the front of this issue.)

## Did you know?

The word “epiphany” comes from the Greek word meaning “manifestation.” A manifestation is an event, action or object that clearly shows an abstract idea.

In the Bible, there are three major epiphanies, or manifestations of Jesus Christ as the Son of God:

1. Adoration of Jesus by the Magi 
2. Jesus's baptism in the Jordan
3. Wedding feast at Cana in Galilee

## What you can do




Greet your friends and family with the traditional Maronite phrase “Deyim Deyim” to wish them a good year.

Take some Holy Water home with you after the Divine Liturgy to be used to bless yourself throughout the year.



## Word Search

Find the words in the list by searching left and right, up and down, forwards and backwards 

L	S	J	O	H	N	E	H	Z	C	S	X
E	T	E	O	B	A	P	T	I	Z	E	R
A	E	S	O	N	N	G	L	A	M	P	E
V	M	U	I	S	F	R	U	N	P	I	H
E	M	S	G	K	R	O	W	C	L	P	T
H	O	L	Y	S	P	I	R	I	T	H	A
H	O	L	Y	W	A	T	E	R	N	A	F
D	E	Y	I	M	D	E	Y	I	M	N	N
W	A	T	E	T	R	I	N	I	T	Y	E

- Jesus
- John
- Father
- Baptize
- Trinity
- Holy Spirit
- Son
- Epiphany
- Deyim Deyim
- Holy Water