



John the Baptist

Saint for Baptism

First century

Born in the hill country of Judea

Feast Days: June 24 (Birth)

August 29 (Martyrdom)

**Patron saint of the Sacrament of Baptism,
converts, and the country Jordan**

Text by Barbara Yoffie

Illustrated by Jeff Albrecht



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A Redemptorist Ministry

Dedication

To my family:
my parents Jim and Peg,
my husband Bill,
our son Sam and daughter-in-law Erin,
and our precious grandchildren
Ben, Lucas, and Andrew

To all the children I have had the privilege
of teaching throughout the years.

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Stephen T. Rehrauer, CSsR, Provincial
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First Edition

Dear Parents and Teachers:

Saints and Me! is a series of children's books about saints, with six books apiece in the first four sets. The first set, *Saints of North America*, honors holy men and women who blessed and served the land we call home. The second, *Saints of Christmas*, includes heavenly heroes who inspire us through Advent and Christmas and teach us to love the Infant Jesus. The third, *Saints for Families*, introduces saints who modeled God's love within and for the domestic Church. The fourth, *Saints for Communities*, explores individuals from different times and places who served Jesus through their various roles and professions.

The seven books in the *Saints for Sacraments* series explore eight saints who had great love for the sacraments. John the Baptist baptized Jesus in the Jordan River. Padre Pio helped people make a good confession. Teresa of Ávila was known for her great love of the Eucharist. Philip Neri received the Holy Spirit after praying to God. Louis and Zélie Martin, a married couple, taught their children to serve God and the poor. At an early age, John Vianney wanted to dedicate his life to God as a priest; today he is the patron saint of parish priests. Maximilian Kolbe battled poor health to become a priest and brought God's healing to sick people.

Name the saint who lived in the desert and ate locusts and honey. In this set of books, who was the saint with stigmata? Who began a Carmelite convent dedicated to prayer? Who grew up during the French Revolution? Which saints were the parents of Thérèse of Lisieux? Who volunteered to die in place of a stranger in a prison camp? Find out in the *Saints for Sacraments* set—part of the *Saints and Me!* series—and help children connect to the lives of the saints.

Introduce your children or students to the *Saints and Me!* series as they:

- READ** about the lives of the saints and are inspired by their stories.
- PRAY** to the saints for their intercession.
- CELEBRATE** the saints and relate them to their lives.

John was a great prophet and preacher who lived a long time ago. Because he baptized a lot of people, he was called John the Baptist. He baptized Jesus! Baptism is the first sacrament we receive. When we are baptized, original sin is washed away and the Holy Spirit comes to us for the first time. We become children of God and members of the Church.





Zechariah and Elizabeth were John's parents. They were good and holy people. Together they prayed that they would someday have a baby to love. They waited for a very long time. Then one day, something amazing happened!

Zechariah was praying in the Temple. The angel Gabriel appeared to him and said, “Your wife, Elizabeth, is going to have a baby boy. You will name him John.” Zechariah and Elizabeth were really happy! Their baby was very special. God had chosen John for a special mission. John would tell everybody about Jesus, the Messiah!



