**Birthday of St John the Baptist**

26th June 2018

**I thank you for the wonder of my being**

On someone’s Birthday we usually think about getting them a gift. There is something about celebrating a Birthday. What gifts are we bringing as a Church today to celebrate this wonderful Feast Day? Well… did you know that the name of John means “God’s gracious gift.”? John the Baptist was a gift to us! When we think about John see how he pointed the way towards Christ, he was the Forerunner who paved the way for Jesus. To show how important his contribution to the story of Salvation He is given this special Feast in honour of his birth. It’s the same when your family do wonderful things to celebrate your birthday. Today we are also called to reflect on our identity. We hear in the Psalm today what a gift we all are… we thank God for the wonder of our being. You are important because you are loved by God!

Today, let us give thanks for the gift of the man John the Baptist, the baby who leapt in his mother’s womb with joy of the Holy Spirit, and the man for pointed people towards Jesus. Let us ask for the strength to be more like John the Baptist and lead others to Jesus.

Happy Birthday John!

Catherine

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