



June 24, 2018 - Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist - Mass during the Day
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Lectionary: 587

Gospel LK 1:57-66, 80

When the time arrived for Elizabeth to have her child she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy toward her, and they rejoiced with her. When they came on the eighth day to circumcise the child, they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother said in reply, "No. He will be called John." But they answered her, "There is no one among your relatives who has this name." So they made signs, asking his father what he wished him to be called. He asked for a tablet and wrote, "John is his name," and all were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened, his tongue freed, and he spoke blessing God. Then fear came upon all their neighbors, and all these matters were discussed throughout the hill country of Judea. All who heard these things took them to heart, saying, "What, then, will this child be?" For surely the hand of the Lord was with him. The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the desert until the day of his manifestation to Israel.

Spiritual Reflection:

Every child should be greeted with awe and expectation and not worry! This is not always the case and so that is when we should listen to Mother Teresa - "Give that child to me. I want it. I will care for it. I am willing to accept any child who would be aborted and to give that child to a married couple who will love the child and be loved by the child."

Spiritual Questions:

1. How can we help women know that they do not need to have an abortion?
2. How can we help those in need?
3. How can we help heal the wounds that abortion causes?
4. How can we look forward to children at home? In our families?
5. How can we help the Church accept children whose parents cannot keep them?