

**June 24**  
**THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**

**Priest Celebrant**

Pray confidently to the Father  
who knit us in our mothers' wombs,  
and knows our souls full well:

**Deacon/Cantor/Reader**

That the obedient response of Mary, Elizabeth, and Zechariah  
to the Holy Spirit characterize every Christian believer,  
let us pray to the Lord:

That the Church heed John the Baptist's call to repentance,  
let us pray to the Lord:

That our words and actions – like John the Baptist's -  
point out the Lamb of God,  
let us pray to the Lord:

That celebrating John's birth strengthen our dedication  
to human life, born and yet to be born,  
let us pray to the Lord:

That our diocese and all Christ's Church be blessed with priests  
devoted to the Gospel in worship, preaching, and service,  
let us pray to the Lord:

That, through the intercession of St. John,  
Israel, Palestine, and all the Mid- and Near-East  
embrace Jesus' gift of peace,  
let us pray to the Lord:

That [ \_\_\_\_\_ ,]  
the war-wounded, and all our sick find comfort in the saving word,  
let us pray to the Lord:

That [ \_\_\_\_\_ ,]  
the war-dead, and all our deceased live forever in glory,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**Priest Celebrant**

Strengthen your servants, Lord,  
to bear your light to the nations  
and your salvation to the ends of the earth.  
You live and reign for ever and ever.