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Each One! Bless One!

You Make a Difference!

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Epiphany, (Koine Greek: ἐπιφάνεια, *epiphaneia*, "manifestation", "striking appearance"^[1]) or **Theophany**,^[2] (Ancient Greek (ἡ) Θεοφάνεια, *Theophaneia*) meaning "vision of God",^[3] which traditionally falls on 6 January, is a Christian **feast day** that celebrates the revelation of **God the Son** as a **human being in Jesus Christ**. Western Christians commemorate principally (but not solely) the visitation of the **Biblical Magi** to the **Baby Jesus**, and thus Jesus' physical manifestation to the **Gentiles**. **Eastern Christians** commemorate the **baptism of Jesus** in the **Jordan River**, seen as his manifestation to the world as the **Son of God**.^[4]

Eastern Churches following the **Julian Calendar** observe the Theophany feast on what for most countries is 19 January^[5] because of the 13-day difference today between that calendar and the generally used **Gregorian calendar**.^[6]

Since 1970, the date of the celebration by **Latin Rite Roman Catholics** is fixed as 6 January only in countries where the feast is a **Holy Day of Obligation**, while in other countries it falls on the Sunday after 1 January. In the **Church of England** also, the feast may be celebrated on the Sunday between 2 January and 8 January.

A separate celebration of the **Baptism of the Lord** was introduced for Latin Rite Roman Catholics in 1955.^[7] Initially, this was to be held on 13 January, previously the **octave day** of the Epiphany, but in the 1969 revision of the **General Roman Calendar** the date was changed to the first Sunday after 6 January.^[8] In countries where on a particular year the Epiphany falls on 7 or 8 January, the feast of the Baptism of the Lord is celebrated on the following Monday. In the Church of England the same custom may be followed. In the **Episcopal Church in the United States** the feast of the Baptism of the Lord is always the Sunday after 6 January.



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