

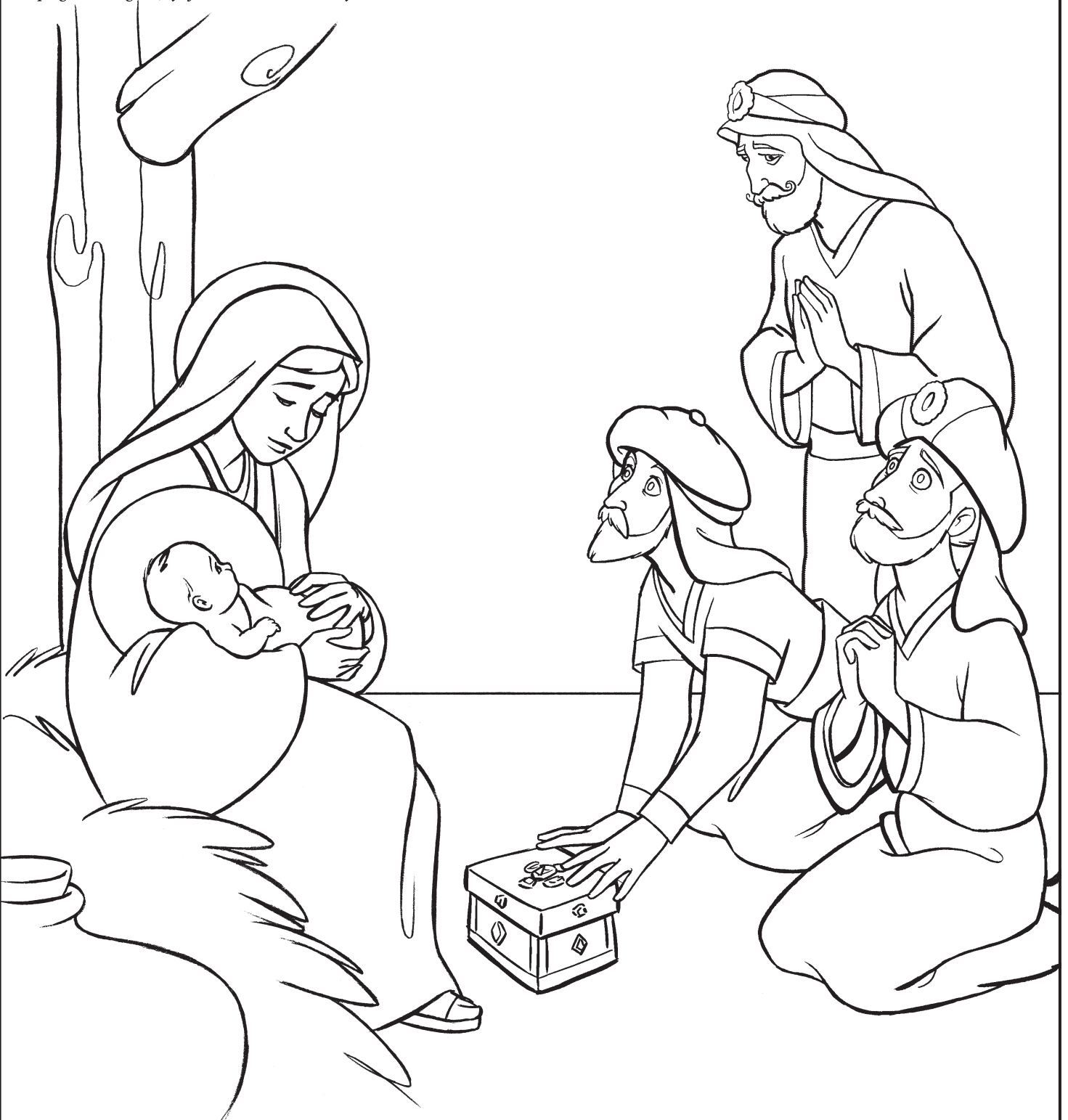
Helping You Bring the Joy of the Faith to Your Family



The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them. (Luke 2:16-20)

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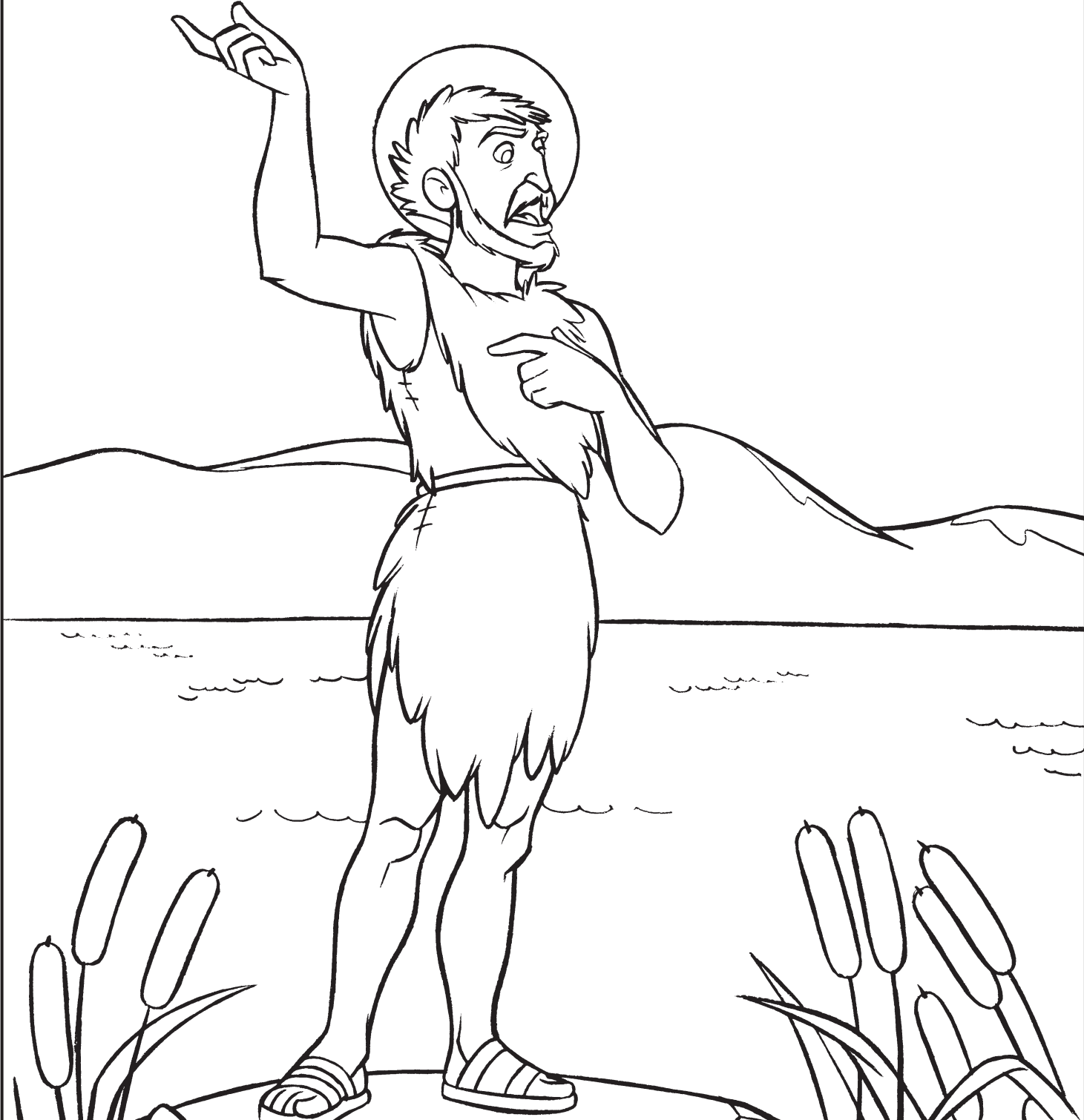
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They prostrated themselves and did Him homage.
Then they opened their treasures and offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.
(Matthew 2:11)

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John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but One mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of His sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." Luke 3:16

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After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove. And a Voice came from Heaven, "You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased." Luke 3:21-22

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There was a marriage at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there;
Jesus also was invited to the marriage, with His disciples. (John 2:1-2)



A wedding celebration could last up to eight days, and wine was served as a symbol of the joy of the new marriage.

A wedding also required a lot of water for the Jews to wash their hands (for the 'rites of purification') before entering into the wedding feast each day. Although there was plenty of water for this washing, the wine ran out.



When the wine failed, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "O woman, what have you to do with Me? My hour has not yet come." (John 2:3-4)

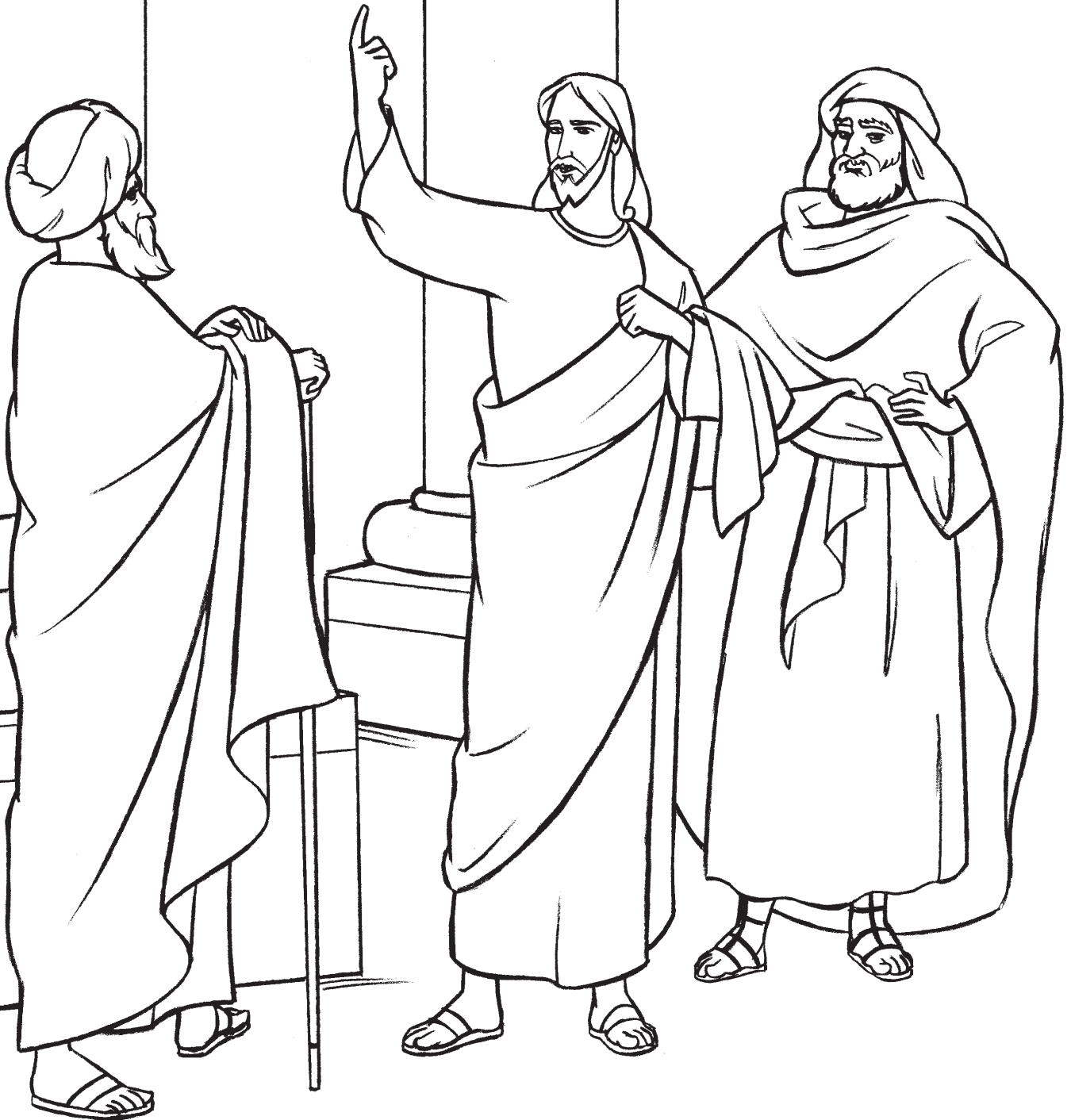


His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever He tells you." Now six stone jars were standing there, for the Jewish rites of purification. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. (John 2:5-7)
And the water was changed into wine! This was Jesus' first miracle.

Jesus continues His ministry through the Church today!



[Jesus] answered, "Have you not read that He Who made them from the beginning 'made them male and female' and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one'? So they are no longer two, but one. What, therefore, God has joined together, let no man put asunder." (Matthew 19:4-6)



Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news of Him spread throughout the whole region. He came to Nazareth, where He had grown up, and went according to His custom into the synagogue on the Sabbath Day. He stood up to read and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor." He said to them, "Today this Scripture passage has been fulfilled in your hearing." (Luke 4:14, 16-18, 21)

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