

# Blessing of the Fire on St. John's Eve

P: Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

All: Who made heaven and earth.

P. The Lord be with you.

All. And with thy spirit.

*The fire is sprinkled with holy water;  
after which the clergy and the people sing the "Ut queant laxis":*

Ut queant laxis resonare fibris  
Mira gestorum famuli tuorum,  
Solve polluti labii reatum,  
Sancte Joannes.

O for your spirit, holy John, to chasten  
Lips sin-polluted, fettered tongues to loosen;  
So by your children might your deeds of wonder  
Meetly be chanted.

Nuntius celso veniens Olympo  
Te patri magnum fore nasciturum,  
Nomen, et vitae seriem gerendae  
Ordinae promit.

Lo! a swift herald, from the skies descending,  
Bears to your father promise of your greatness;  
How he shall name you, what your future story,  
Duly revealing.

Ille promissi dubius superni,  
Perdidit promptae modulor loquela:  
Sed reformasti genitus peremptae  
Organa vocis.

Scarcely believing message so transcendent,  
Him for a season power of speech forsaketh,  
Till, at your wondrous birth, again returneth,  
Voice to the voiceless.

Ventris obstruso recubans cubili  
Senserat Regem thalamo manentem:  
Hinc parens nati  
meritis uterque Abditam pandit.

You, in your mother's womb all darkly cradled,  
Knew your great Monarch, biding in His chamber,  
Whence the two parents,  
through their offspring's merits, Mysteries uttered.

Sit decus Patri, genitaque Proli  
et tibi, compare utriusque virtus,  
Spiritus semper, Deus unus, omni  
Temporis aevo. Amen.

Praise to the Father, to the Son begotten,  
And to the Spirit, equal power possessing,  
One God Whose glory, through the lapse of ages,  
Ever resounding.

Let us pray. Lord God, almighty Father, the light that never fails and the source of all light, sanctify + this new fire, and grant that after the darkness of this life we may come unsullied to Thee Who art light eternal; through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

P: There was a man sent from God.

All. Whose name was John.

Let us pray. God, Who by reason of the birth of blessed John have made this day praiseworthy, give Thy people the grace of spiritual joy, and keep the hearts of Thy faithful fixed on the way that leads to everlasting salvation; through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.