

## Yr 2 Parents' Cheat Sheet Theophany of Our Lord

### 1. What was revealed at Jesus' Baptism?

The Trinity. This is the first time God is revealed to us as Trinity in Jesus' life. The Father speaks - "This is my Son" (Jesus), the Son is Baptized and the Spirit comes down "like a dove." We don't know exactly what the Spirit really looked like, but this is the way that Matthew described it. He had to use words to talk about it so that people could understand it.

New vocabulary - *Theophany* - *Theos* means God. *Phainein* - means "to Show". That is why we call this Feast Theo-phany, because God shows (reveals) himself as three persons in one God.

### 2. Why do we hold three fingers together when we make the sign of the cross?

This represents the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit! They are not separate Gods, so we hold the fingers close together! This shows that we know that this is one God. But there are three persons within one God. This is hard to understand - even adults. It's a mystery but we can still believe it.

### 3. When is it a good time to make the sign of the cross?

This is actually a short prayer that you can do at any time during the day. Discuss some times that the children and you could be praying this short prayer, e.g. In the morning as you step out of bed and at night it could be that last thing you do as you fall asleep, when you walk by your icon corner or drive by a church, as you start a difficult job or are feeling scared or anxious about something etc.

As parents, it is a beautiful thing to trace a cross on your children's foreheads and bless them as they go out of the house to school or at night when they go to bed – saying "God bless you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Allow your children to bless you as well!