

A religious painting depicting Christ seated on a throne of angels. Christ is the central figure, wearing a green and red robe, with a golden halo containing the Greek letters 'Ω' and 'Χ'. He is surrounded by a vast sea of smaller angels, all with golden halos, looking up at him. The scene is framed by two large angels on the sides, holding a white cloth. The background is a golden-yellow color. The text 'How is This Good News?' is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

How is This Good News?

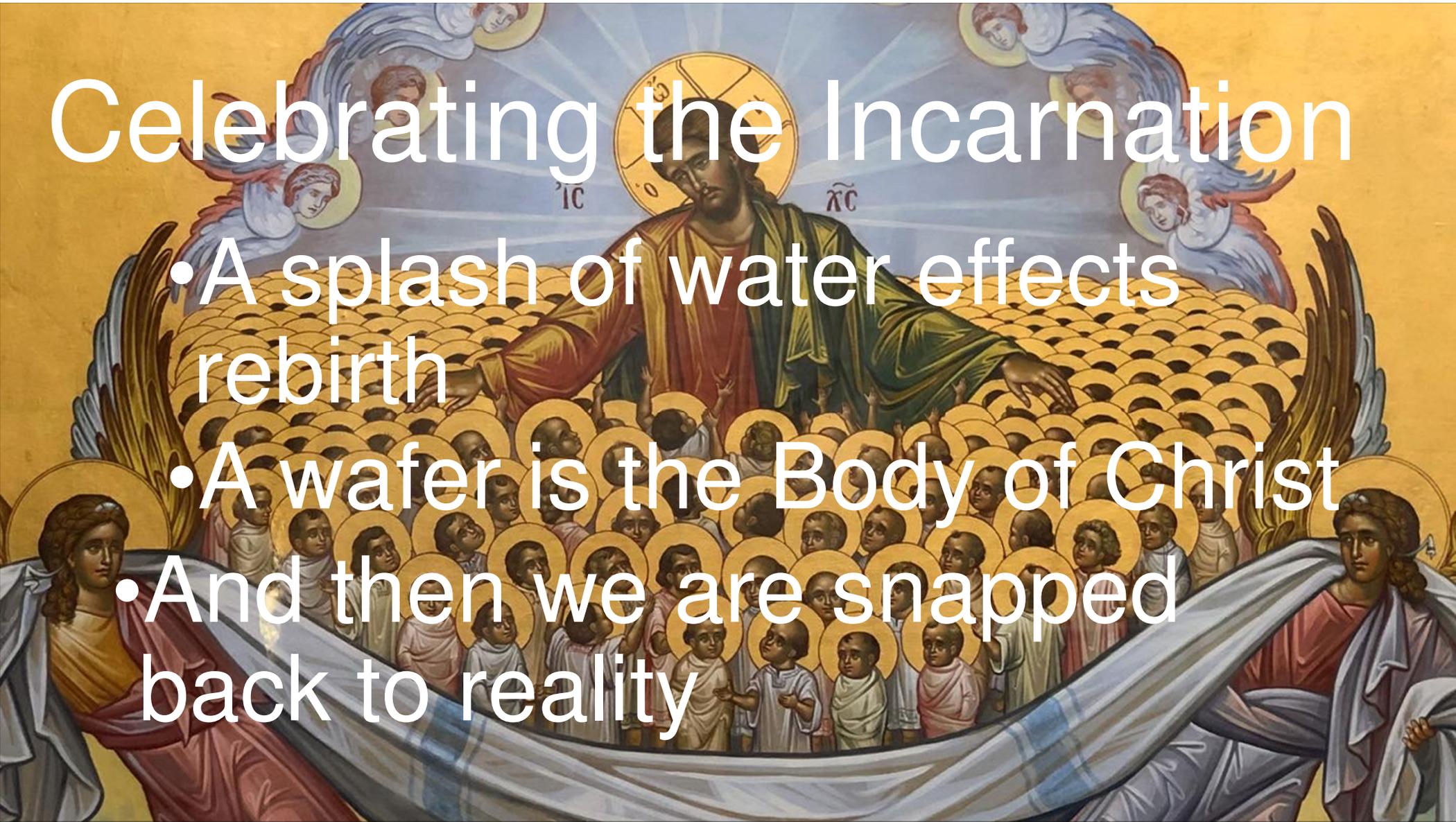
Celebrating the Incarnation

- Family, Fun, Feasting
- Amazing Grace
- A womb contained God
- An angelic army appeared



Celebrating the Incarnation

- A splash of water effects rebirth
- A wafer is the Body of Christ
- And then we are snapped back to reality



Reality's Revenge



- Dec. 26th—the Feast of Stephen
- Dec. 28th—the Holy Innocents
- How is this good news?

Matthew's Echoes

- Joseph is Joseph.
- Herod is Pharoah.



Matthew's Echoes

- Rachel is all the mothers who have lost children.
- How long O Lord?



Reality's Redemption

- Jesus is the New Moses
- Troubling questions



Reality's Redemption

- Jesus comes to this world.
- This world "for all its horror, been found by God to be worth dying for". (Flannery O'Connor, *Collected Letters*)

