



SCRIPT: **Sunday Morning with St. Nicholas and John the Baptist**
An Advent Skit about Charity and Repentance

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This short, three-person skit for Advent can be performed as a full dramatic production with costumes and memorized lines, or as a simpler production with actors holding scripts and minimal costuming. Because of the complexity of the material, the skit is best performed by older teens or adults. Even if you are having actors use their scripts during the performance, it's important to have at least 1-2 practice sessions so everyone gets the tone and stage directions right.

Each of the characters has a definite “flavor.” The talk show host is slightly smarmy, and a little bit too eager and touchy-feely. (Think of an exaggerated Dr. Phil or Oprah.) Chairs or stools can be used for each character, set up in the front of your sanctuary or chancel area for everyone to see. Saint Nicholas is dignified and humble, and appears slightly bewildered by the talk show host’s over-familiarity. John the Baptist is a little wild and unpredictable—someone you can actually picture hanging out in the desert and eating bugs.

CAST: Talk Show Host (Mr. A. D. Vent)
Saint Nicholas
John the Baptist

COSTUMES:

TALK SHOW HOST: A suit or other “talk show host”-appropriate wear.

SAINT NICHOLAS: A big red bishop’s miter, red robe, and carries a tall stick/ bishop’s crozier. (White beard optional.)

JOHN THE BAPTIST: Crazy “Rastafarian-style” wig (or other crazy-looking hair) and rough brown robe/tunic. Bare feet. He carries a small basket of gummy worms and a box of “honeycomb” cereal that has a cord attached to two corners so that it can be slung over his shoulders like a purse, thus freeing at least one of his hands.



PROPS:

You may choose to have the three actors seated on chairs or stools instead of standing during the production. Each character has their own props as part of their costume.

SCRIPT

(TALK SHOW HOST stands in front of the three chairs (if you choose to use seating) as his “show” begins. He addresses the viewing audience.)

TALK SHOW HOST:

Hello everyone, and welcome to your favorite talk show, “[Name of Parish] Wants to Know.” I’m your host, Dr. A.D. Vent, and today, we’re here to answer the question: What is the right way to prepare for Christmas? Should we shop till we drop? Bake cookies till our fingers are numb? Inquiring minds want to know.

Our guest is someone whose name is practically synonymous with Christmastime. Someone who is so beloved by adults and children all over the world, that he hardly needs an introduction. Someone who is so, well, so good, that it makes me feel guilty just thinking about him. Put your hands together, folks, for our very special guest, Saaaaiint Nicholas!!!

(SAINT NICHOLAS walks out looking somewhat sheepish and bewildered.)

TALK SHOW HOST:

(Shaking his hand)

Nice to see you Saint Nick. I can call you St. Nick, can’t I?

(Both take a seat if you are using this format.)

SAINT NICHOLAS: *(Politely)*

Well, actually, I prefer Bishop Nicholas.

TALK SHOW HOST:

Oh, OK Bishop Nick. We are sooo pleased to have you here today. December’s the month of your feast day, right?

SAINT NICHOLAS: Yes, it is. So nice of you to remember!

TALK SHOW HOST:

Well, it’s sort of hard to forget really. You are pretty much everywhere we look at Christmastime. You are, if I may say so, the MAN! The Christmas man, of course.

SAINT NICHOLAS: Well, actually, that’s not really true. There’s only one Christmas man, and his name is Jesus. I’m just his servant.

