



The Wedding Feast at Cana Icon

By: Transcendentia Designs

Our icon, “The Wedding Feast at Cana” depicts the biblical scene where Jesus performs his first miracle by turning water into wine at a wedding feast at Cana in Galilee (John 2:1-11). Jesus, the Messiah, is easily identifiable by the nimbus (halo) surrounding His head bearing a cruciform containing the Greek letters ω $\omicron$ ν (omega, omicron, nu) “I am He who is”; the name of God in Exodus 3:14. Outside the nimbus are the Greek letters IC XC – the Christogram. The Greek letters "IC XC" are often written near Christ, representing the name "Jesus Christ". The "IC" is made up of the first and last letters of the Greek word for "Jesus" (Ἰησοῦς), while the "XC" is made up of the first and last letters of the Greek word for "Christ" (Χριστός).

The scroll in Jesus' left hand indicates He is the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies and has authority and wisdom. It is also a reference to Revelation 5:5 as “the one who is worthy to open the scroll.” The rod in his right hand represents divine intervention in the transformation of the water into wine.

Mary is in blue (representing human life) and wrapped in red (representing the divine life and sacrifice). The Greek letters MP ΘΥ (short for ΜΗΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΥ, "Mother of God") are inscribed to the right of the head of the Virgin Mary. She presents the need of the couple to Jesus. As a symbol of the Church, Mary is central to the story, so also the Church should be central to the Christian life.