

Family Liturgy – 2nd Sunday of Advent (Year B) Sunday 6th December 2020

Preparing the prayer space

Place a purple cloth on the table or floor (purple, the colour for Advent)
Place a bible and two candles symbolising the second Sunday of Advent with some greenery around the candles. Place a picture or a Christmas crib as a reminder of our preparation for the birth of Jesus. Place some holy water if you have some or a bowl with water as a reminder of our baptism. Light the candles or use battery-operated candles for safety. Place any other symbols relevant to your family.



<http://clipart-library.com/>

Prepare materials

You tube as listed on sheet: Scripture story and song
Suggested activities: your choice or other related activity on sheet
Print out sheet if required

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver:

Today, we come together to celebrate the 2nd Sunday of Advent Year B.
Advent is a time to prepare for the birth of Jesus at Christmas.
We ask God to help us today to pray together as one family looking forward to this time to grow closer to God.

Opening prayer: God of love and new life, help us to listen to you in the Gospel story and to follow you closely. Help us to prepare well for your coming this Christmas. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel: The beginning of the holy gospel according to Mark (1:1-8).

This is the good news about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
It began just as God had said in the book written by Isaiah the prophet,

“I am sending my messenger to get the way ready for you.
In the desert someone is shouting,
‘Get the road ready for the Lord! Make a straight path for him.’”

So John the Baptist showed up in the desert and told everyone,
“Turn back to God and be baptised!
Then your sins will be forgiven.”

From all Judea and from Jerusalem crowds of people went to John.
They told how sorry they were for their sins, and he baptised them in the Jordan River.
John wore clothes made of camel’s hair. He had a leather strap around his waist and ate grasshoppers and wild honey.

John also told the people, “Someone more powerful is going to come.
And I am not good enough even to stoop down and untie his sandals.
I baptise you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.”

All: Glory to you O, Lord. “

The gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayerfully watch the videos together <https://youtu.be/p-Wh-A20dSq> (1.06 mins)
https://youtu.be/qNbwrHp_7Ys (2.10 mins)

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder why God sent a messenger to prepare the way for Jesus.

I wonder how John the Baptist felt when he was asked to be God's messenger in the desert and tell everyone that Jesus was coming.

I wonder if God still needs messengers to spread the news...

I wonder how you can be God's messenger and help spread the good news with others

I wonder how the Holy Spirit can guide us to do this

I wonder what Jesus is saying to each one of us with this parable today

I wonder how Jesus feels when we help others understand the real meaning of Christmas

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

Yes Lord I Believe by John Burland <https://youtu.be/7MR2iGDyUtE> (3 mins)

Intercessions: Let us now spend some time in prayer asking God to listen to our needs.
(We respond to the prayers by saying the words '**Lord, hear our prayer**')

1 We pray for Pope Francis, Archbishop Pat and all Church and world leaders: that they will be guided by the Holy Spirit to help us to get ready during this Advent for Jesus to come to us.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

2 We pray for people in our world who are suffering in any way at this time especially during this COVID-19 outbreak: that they may feel the love and care of others who help to relieve their suffering and to know that they are deeply loved by God.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

3 We pray for all people in our parishes and in our communities: that together we can grow in love as we get ready this Advent for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

4 We pray for all people, especially for children, who have received the Sacraments for the first time: that they will grow in love of Jesus and be ready to do their best to live as members of God's family. Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

5 We pause for a moment and pray in our hearts or aloud for any intentions or people we would like to pray for at this time...(pause) Lord, hear us **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

6 We pray for all people who have died recently and especially for people we know and love: that they will now be united in God's kingdom of love and mercy.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

Closing prayer: God of infinite tenderness, we believe in your love – in your love you created the world. We believe in your love – in your love you sent Jesus to live with us on earth. We believe in your love – in your love you gave us the Holy Spirit to breathe life in us. Amen.

Closing song: Advent Candle Song <https://youtu.be/DkTWjhjKHjs> (3.26 mins)

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has come to a close.

- Write a prayer to Jesus in your prayer journal (special notebook) and illustrate it.
- Draw a cartoon story of what happened in this gospel story with captions.
- Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S02KOlw7dIA> to discover what Advent is about.
- Go to https://sermons4kids.com/messenger_sent_from_god_wordsearch.htm?fromSermonId=470 to find a Wordsearch on today's Gospel.
- Go to <https://adelaide.catholic.org.au/schools/catholic-education-sa/family-and-parish-based-catechesis/resources> for more Advent & Christmas resources