

Third Sunday of Advent (Year C)

12th December 2021

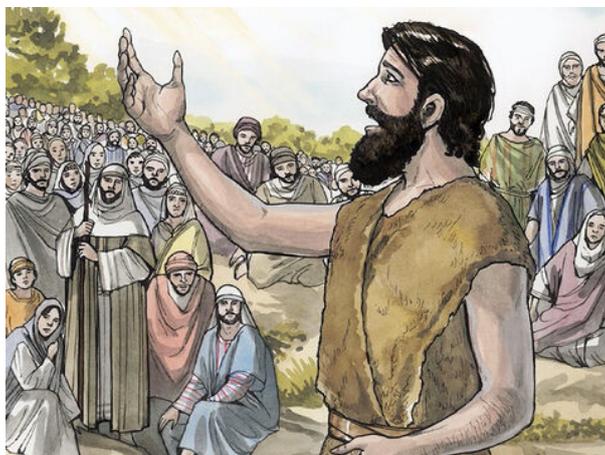
Preparing the prayer space

Place a pink cloth on the table or floor (pink – the colour for joy during a time of preparation)

Place a cross, bible, and candle on it. Light the candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety. Add any other symbols relevant to your family.

Prepare materials

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



<https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-012-john-baptist/>

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver: In today's gospel, John the Baptist is telling the people that Messiah is coming.

Opening prayer:

Lord God, prepare our hearts and fill them with love so that we can be ready to receive you wholeheartedly.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke (3:10-16, 18)

All: Glory to you O, Lord.

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?"

John told them, "If you have two coats, give one to someone who doesn't have any. If you have food, share it with someone else."

When the tax collectors came to be baptised, they asked John, "Teacher, what should we do?"

John told them, "Don't make people pay more than they owe."

Some soldiers asked him, "And what about us?"

What do we have to do?"

John told them, "Don't force people to pay money to make you leave them alone. Be satisfied with your pay."

Everyone became excited and wondered, "Could John be the Messiah?"

John said, "I am just baptising with water. But someone more powerful is going to come, and I am not good enough even to untie his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."

In many different ways John preached the good news to the people.

The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Gospel text © Lectionary for Masses with Children (1993) Catholic Book Publishing Co. New York)

Prayerfully watch the videos together

Advent Grace! Advent 3C <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-6OeD4sj9Pk>

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder why the crowds were asking John what to do...

I wonder why the crowds followed John...

I wonder what made them think that John was the messiah...

I wonder who John was talking about when he said, "someone more powerful is going to come,"...

I wonder what the people in the crowds did after listening to John...

I wonder how I can give more or do more for other people...

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

I Believe - John Burland ft. Genevieve Bryant <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvYbfojVkgGQ> (4 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 Pope Francis, Archbishop Patrick O'Regan, all Church and world leaders to lead by acts of unity and harmony.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

2 We pray for all families, that they will make space for hope, faith, joy, and peace within their homes this Advent.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

3 We pray for the members of our Church grow in grace, love and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

4 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 those who experience isolation, loneliness, and separation. May the love of Jesus bring them peace and hope.

Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

(Daily Prayer 2021 © 2020 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, Chicago)

Closing prayer: We lift our hearts and the prayers of our community. We make these prayers through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Closing song: O Come, O Come Emmanuel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0CP1leHgWY> (4:08min)

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has end.

- **Prayer journal**

Write a prayer to Jesus in your prayer journal (special notebook).

- **Colouring In**

https://sermons4kids.com/john_baptist_colorpg.htm

- **Advent prayer booklet**

Create your own prayer booklet to pray along with during this Advent season.

<https://catholicprouts.com/advent-prayers-free-printable-booklet-children/>

- **Sunday Connection**

Gather in a prayerful space, perhaps around the family Advent wreath... Invite each family member to pray silently... Then celebrate God's forgiveness by sharing the sign of peace with one another.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/second-sunday-of-advent-cycle-c-sunday-connection/>