

Second Sunday of Advent (Year C)

5th December 2021

Preparing the prayer space

Place a purple cloth on the table or floor (purple – the colour for 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

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver: In today's gospel, Jesus is asking us to be ready for him.

Opening prayer:

Lord God, help us to turn to you and to see your saving power in our lives.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke (3:1a,2-6)

All: Glory to you O, Lord.

For fifteen years Emperor Tiberius had ruled that part of the world, and Annas and Caiaphas were the Jewish high priests. At that time God spoke to Zechariah's son John, who was living in the desert.

So John went along the Jordan Valley, telling the people, "Turn back to God and be baptised! Then your sins will be forgiven." Isaiah the prophet wrote about John when he said,

"In the desert someone is shouting, 'Get the road ready for the Lord! Make a straight path for him! Fill up every valley and level every mountain and hill. Straighten the crooked paths and smooth out the rough roads. Then everyone will see the saving power of God.'"

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

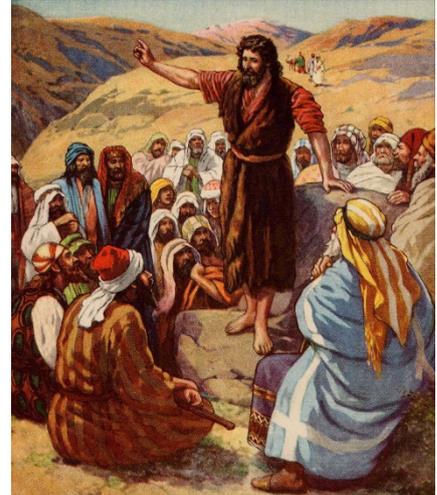
John the Baptist <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7NMHOLPWeTM> (4:04min)

Scripture reflection and time of sharing:

I wonder why John was living in the desert...

I wonder why John was asking people to turn back to God to be baptised...

I wonder what the people who were listening to him were thinking...



I wonder how the prophet Isaiah knew about John the Baptist...
I wonder what the prophet Isaiah's message was...
I wonder when you have seen God's saving power your life...

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

I Believe - John Burland ft. Genevieve Bryant <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvYbfojVKGQ> (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 work with others for the common good.

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

2 We pray for all families, that they will find joy and peace in their homes.

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

3 We pray for the members of our Church may spread faith, hope, and love with others this Advent season.

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 have suffered much pain, may they find healing and peace in Jesus.

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: Prepare the Way https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8_Sj853SIsU

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**
<http://www.freefunchristmas.com/wp-content/uploads/Advent-Wreath-Coloring-Page.pdf>
- **Jesse Tree**
Even though Advent has already begun, you may look at creating your own Jesse tree to count down until Christmas. For more inspiration look at <https://awellpurposedwoman.com/jesse-tree-tradition-free-printable/>
- **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/>