



Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear about John the Baptist calling people to prepare themselves for Christ's arrival. John alerted the people of the need to change some of their ways and to the fact that Jesus was coming.

This Gospel can serve to remind us about the importance of preparing ourselves as Christmas approaches: to repent (to look into our hearts and see if there are any ways that we could make a change for the better), and to be busy doing the things that Jesus told us to do, loving God and

Wednesday 1st December 2021

loving one another through our words and through our deeds. In these ways we prepare our hearts to be filled with a joy that lasts long after the Christmas festivities have passed.

Enjoy a very special time together hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **PREPARATION**.

Dom Henry Wansbrough



To see this week's Parish Version of The Wednesday Word: wednesdayword.org - Parents' Pages - Lectio Divina with Fr Henry.

THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 5th December 2021



At the time when Pontius Pilate was the Roman governor of Judaea, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, who was living in the desert. John went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah: 'A voice cries in the wilderness; prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley will be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, winding ways will be straightened and rough roads made smooth. And all people will see the saving power of God.'

Adapted from Luke 3:1-6
The 2nd Sunday of Advent, Year C

Everyone can learn more about this Gospel in Church - all are warmly invited.

"In this second week of Advent,
we ask for the grace to
prepare ourselves with faith
to celebrate Christmas."

Pope Francis



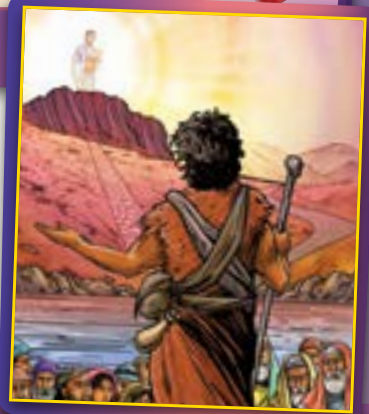
John the Baptist encouraged people to change their hearts. His message is for us too. Good preparation is always important in everything we do. Preparing ourselves well for Christmas will help us to draw closer to Jesus, and so experience and share more of God's love.



1 Our Special Time Together

Enjoy reading the Gospel overleaf (or below for younger children)

At the time when Pontius Pilate was the Roman governor of Judaea, there was a man named John, a prophet, who was living in the desert. God spoke to him and told him to preach to the people. So John went out to baptise and to prepare the people for the coming of Jesus. He told them to change their lives and to turn back to God.



Who was John preparing the people for? Which word or words stood out for you in this Sunday's Gospel, and why? Look at the picture opposite. What does it make you think about?

2 Wednesday's Word is ...

PREPARATION

3 Loving God & Each Other

"Whoever has peace in his heart 'prepares a place' for the Lord."

St Theoliptos of Philadelphia

Advent is a time of waiting and preparation. Ask your child what the word 'preparation' means to them. When did your child last prepare for something particularly well or for something special? It may help your child if you can share something about a time when you prepared particularly well for something. How is your child preparing at school for the celebration of Jesus' birthday at Christmas?

"Prepare a path for God so that he can enter your heart."

St John Baptist De La Salle

As a family, how can you prepare well for Christmas? Perhaps you can: slow down and try to remember Jesus - the real reason for Christmas; read The Wednesday Word together; read the Bible's Christmas story together; make an extra effort to consider other people's needs throughout this Season of Advent; visit CAFOD's Advent Calendar which is now online, see: cafod.org.uk

Dear Lord Jesus, please help us to **prepare** our hearts to receive and to share more of your love as Christmas approaches. Amen.

Gospel Gallery

J	H	C	A	E	R	P	O	J	N	H
E	E	P	H	E	L	P	O	E	P	G
S	P	P	R	E	A	C	H	S	D	D
U	P	R	O	P	S	G	B	T	E	E
S	P	R	O	P	H	E	T	V	S	T
T	R	L	I	V	E	D	I	U	E	E
R	E	G	I	H	N	L	S	H	R	S
E	P	E	O	P	L	E	P	L	T	N
S	A	L	S	E	J	O	H	N	H	G
E	R	A	P	E	R	P	D	O	N	J
D	E	S	H	P	B	H	J	L	J	D

WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

- JOHN PROPHET**
- LIVED DESERT**
- PREACH PEOPLE**
- PREPARE JESUS**

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**



Search for at least three differences between this picture and the colour one. Then draw them in before colouring.

Cross out the letters **i t m** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

pemopilet Jothinm Jetsumsi piretparem

" _____ went out to baptise and to _____ the _____ for the coming of _____ ."

