

# THE WEDNESDAY WORD



The Sunday Gospel through School on Wednesday

## A Weekly Gift to you from your Catholic School Sharing Sunday's Gospel with Parents and Families

### 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

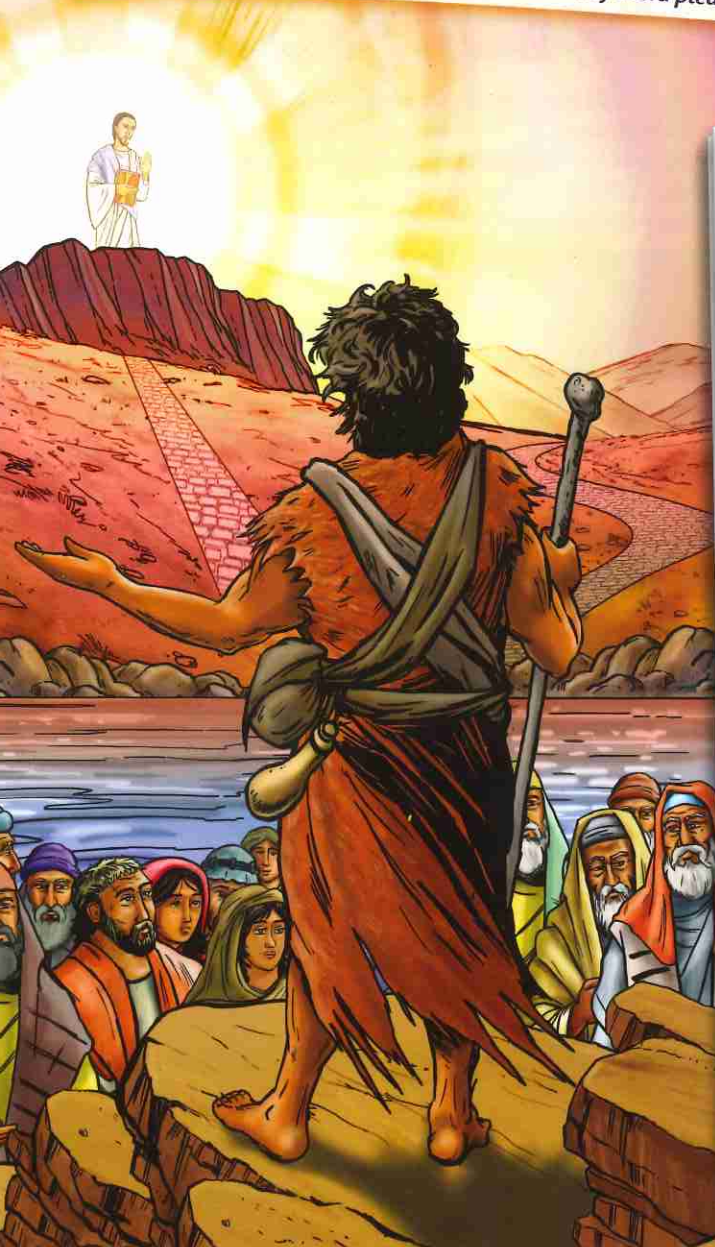
busy doing the things that Jesus told us to do, loving God and loving one another through our words and through our deeds. In these ways we prepare our hearts to be filled with a joy that lasts long after the Christmas festivities have passed.

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 please visit: [www.wednesdayword.org](http://www.wednesdayword.org) – Parents' Pages - Lectio Divina with Fr Henry.



### Adapted from **THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH** SUNDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2018



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.'

Taken from the Gospel of Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2018  
Luke 3:1-6 (the 2nd Sunday of Advent, Year C)

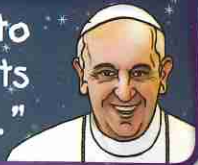
**Everyone can learn more about this Gospel in Church ~ all are warmly invited.**

# Good News for Families

John the Baptist encouraged people to change their hearts. His message is for us too. Now is the time to prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth - God's arrival into our world in the person of Jesus. Preparing ourselves well for Christmas will help us to draw closer to Jesus, and so experience and share more of God's love.

## A Word From Pope Francis...

"Advent is a time to prepare our hearts to receive Christ."



# A Special 5 Minutes Together

Enjoy Reading Sunday's Gospel

See the Gospel overleaf (or below for younger children)

**1** 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.

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



## 2 Wednesday's Word is...

## PREPARATION



## 3 Loving God & Each Other

Good preparation is always important in everything we do.

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

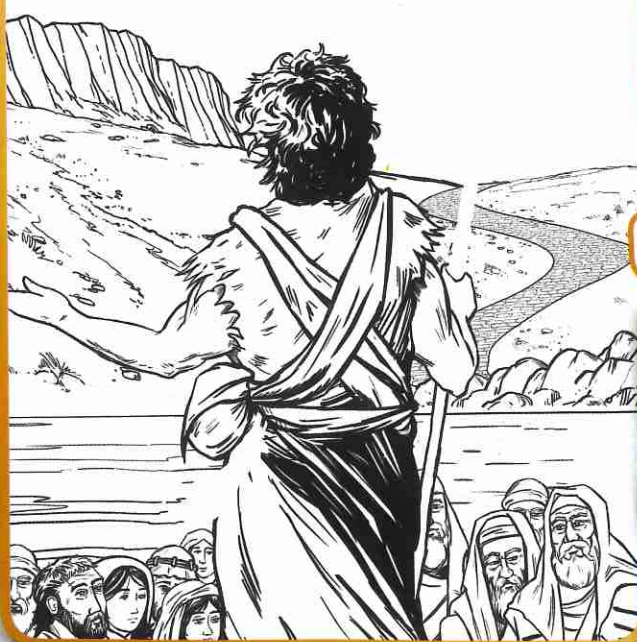
As a family, how can you prepare well for Christmas? Perhaps you can: slow down and try to remember the real reason for Christmas; regularly give thanks to God for the gift of Jesus; read The Wednesday Word together; read the Bible's Christmas story together; go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession); say a prayer each time you open a window on your Advent calendar; make an extra effort to consider other people's needs throughout this Season of Advent.



Dear Lord Jesus, please help us to prepare well for Christmas and show us how we can help others to do the same. Amen.



# GOSPEL GALLERY + SUNDAYSEARCHES



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

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

**SUPERSEARCHERS** FIND THE WORDS BACKWARDS OR DIAGONALLY

J	H	G	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	V	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

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

**pemopilet Jothinm Jetsumsi piretparem**

Now fit the real words, in the right order, into the sentence below.

"\_\_\_\_\_ went out to baptise and to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ for the coming of \_\_\_\_\_."

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



For more ideas about what you can do to prepare for Christmas, see CAFOD's Advent Calendar which is now online. To find out more please visit: [cafod.org.uk/primary](http://cafod.org.uk/primary)