

A Coffee with Alessio



The Second Sunday of Advent

As we continue our preparations for the coming of Christ at Christmas, this Sunday the liturgy focuses on John the Baptist. We've all heard the saying, "don't shoot the messenger", and yet that's exactly what happened to John the Baptist. However, they went one step further, and put his head on a plate! Recently with the changes to the reporting and licensing scheme for copyright in our churches, we met some resistance at our workshops in the beginning. The first thing I told the people was that Chris deSilva and I are just the messengers. "We are like "St John the Baptist."

There are many hymns that refer to him and us preparing for the coming of the Lord. In *Catholic Worship Book II*, there are:

-Prepare the Way (a good Australian hymn by Brian Boniwell) and 'On Jordan's Bank.'

In *As One Voice for Kids* as well other collections by Michael Mangan there is the hymn 'Fill Ev'ry Valley up.'

These hymns are just a couple of suggestions for you. You can reuse these hymns next Sunday as the focus (in the liturgy) is still on John the Baptist next Sunday.

So, as we prepare for the coming of the Lord, let our music help ourselves, our musicians and those in our worshipping communities to better understand the "message" John the Baptist tried to preach.

Enjoy your coffee and dessert, as we prepare for the coming of the Lord. Today is also the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary- a good excuse to have a 'delicious desert'.

Alessio Loiacono
Music Field Officer

Friday 8 December 2017