



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT- YEAR B

Sunday 6 December 2020

Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

Make straight the paths of the Lord.

This is the good news about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
It began just as God had said
in the book written by Isaiah the prophet,

"I am sending my messenger to get the way ready for you.
In the desert someone is shouting,
'Get the road ready for the Lord!
Make a straight path for him.'"

So John the Baptist showed up in the desert and told everyone,
"Turn back to God and be baptised!
Then your sins will be forgiven."

From all Judea and from Jerusalem crowds of people went to John.
They told how sorry they were for their sins,
and he baptised them in the Jordan River.

John wore clothes made of camel's hair.
He had a leather strap around his waist
and ate grasshoppers and wild honey.

John also told the people,
"Someone more powerful is going to come.
And I am not good enough even to stoop down and untie his sandals.
I baptise you with water,
but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection Notes

Today is the Second Sunday of Advent. Advent means waiting for the arrival of a special person or thing. We are given four weeks to prepare for the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day. Some ways we can prepare ourselves for Jesus are:

- helping with chores around the house
- doing things our parents and teachers ask us straight away
- praying for anyone we know who is sick or lonely
- taking some food for the Saint Vincent de Paul Christmas hamper.

Jesus is always pleased with us when we do something for someone else. Thinking about others is what Jesus did. In this way, we are being a messenger of Jesus like John the Baptist was. We can care for others, like John the Baptist did, so they feel happy and safe in the community. Jesus is happy for us to do things for others, but sometimes people want us do things for others or ask us to do things that make us feel unsafe. If you feel scared or unsafe, then you are allowed to say No, and you need to tell a trusted adult about it – someone on your helping hand network.

Discussion Questions

John the Baptist proclaimed the message of Jesus.

- *What are three ways you can be a messenger of Jesus during this last week of the school year? (Especially think how you can make people feel happy and safe in the classroom and in your play.)*
- *What can you say if you see someone being treated unkindly?*

Like John the Baptist we can be a messenger of Jesus by helping people who feel sad.

- *Think of what you can do to help someone who is feeling sad or being hurt. Do you need to tell somebody about it and who is would that person be? Remember – ‘God gave all children the right to feel safe at all times’ and ‘Nothing is so awful that you can’t talk with someone about it’.*

Universal Prayer

Leader: We have heard how John prepared the people for the coming of Christ. As we continue to prepare for Christmas we now pray to the Lord.

Leader: In this last week of the school year we may be helpful to our teachers, family members and friends.
Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: May we will be kind and include others in our games.
Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: We now add our own prayers in the silence of our hearts.
Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord, we pray that as we continue to prepare for the birth of your Son on Christmas Day, we may continue to be your messengers in the world, just like John the Baptist. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Answer Key Word Sleuth

W	B	L	I	S	A	I	A	H	N	G	T	U	J
I	I	L	N	E	T	W	O	R	K	V	E	R	O
S	C	T	O	U	Z	H	Y	T	P	N	M	S	H
R	E	A	D	Y	F	E	G	J	O	R	D	A	N
R	O	T	C	E	L	L	O	I	X	A	T	B	B
N	F	N	J	E	S	U	S	R	A	N	K	O	J
G	O	O	D	N	E	W	S	A	O	R	J	T	O
K	H	H	O	L	Y	S	E	I	R	I	T	I	B
P	R	O	P	H	E	T	D	S	D	E	R	S	B
A	B	C	C	D	E	S	E	R	T	Y	Y	R	E