

December 10th 2023 2nd Sunday of Advent – Year B – Mark 1:1 - 8

^{1:1}The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight”, ⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.⁷He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals.⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

<p>➤ Read and re-read – out loud and slowly the Gospel.</p> <p>➤ Meditate - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life</p>	<p>➤ Pray - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition</p> <p>➤ Action – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do</p>
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In this week’s gospel we see Jesus sending his messenger to prepare the way for the Lord. We see John the Baptist appearing in the wilderness calling on people to move from a place of wilderness or despair to a state of hopeful and trusting expectation. Jesus himself was someone who knew how to wait. When are the times in our lives when we fell deep into the wilderness with no glimpse of hope or trust?

Who have been the messengers Jesus sent to tell us we are not destined to remain there forever? That we can expect the good news to come into our lives if we are patient.

Have we been bearers of good news to others?

When has seeing Christ in others helped you in your dealings with them?

Prayer:

Thank you Lord for the people who have been John the Baptist in our lives by their encouragement and compassion.

Forgive us Lord for the times we did not share the Good News of Jesus with others as we are all called to be His messengers by our Baptism.

Help us Lord to know that when we feel powerless you are more powerful because it is your sacred work we are doing and you will not let us down.

