



Friends of Jesus and Mary

Cycle B-II Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40, 1-5. 9-11; Psalm 84; 2 Peter 3, 8-14; Mark 1, 1-8

Prepare the Way of the Lord

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: *Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."* John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Reflection

Who was St. John the Baptist? (Jesus' cousin, the son of St. Elizabeth and St. Zachariah) **Why did he dress in camel hair and eat locusts and wild honey?** (His appearance didn't matter to him. He dedicated himself completely to uniting with God in prayer and sacrifice because God had given him a special mission.) **What was his mission?** (He was a prophet or messenger of God announcing to His people to prepare themselves for the coming of the Messiah.) **How does he tell them to prepare?** (Repent and be baptized. When we sincerely confess our sins to God, He forgives us and cleans our heart to receive Jesus, our King, with love.) **Why does he say that he baptizes with water, but someone will come to baptize with the Holy Spirit?** (His baptism is only symbolic of conversion, but the Savior's baptism, has the power to forgive our sins and give us eternal life.)



Advent is a time to prepare to receive Jesus spiritually into our heart on Christmas day. In mass, the priest wears purple which represents prayer and penance or sacrifices we do to prepare. How can we prepare our heart to be a place worthy of Our King? (Pray more; help more around the house, in school, or in the community; stop fighting and reconcile; stop sinning; do small sacrifices such as not eating sweets or playing a favorite game.)

Activity

On the following page, complete the Advent crossword puzzle. On the last page, color and match the week number with the scripture below.

Prayer

Lord, help me to repent of my sins and to want only to please you and to love you. Help me to prepare my heart this Advent so it is worthy of You. Amen.

Song: *The King Is on the Way, David's Dynasty*, (Ctrl Click) <https://youtu.be/V6kluetbQdY>

PPT: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1zatelf0cW5-8n40jvbmVMsxanxPU1yuP/edit?usp=drive_link&oid=115268475267556305384&rtpof=true&sd=true

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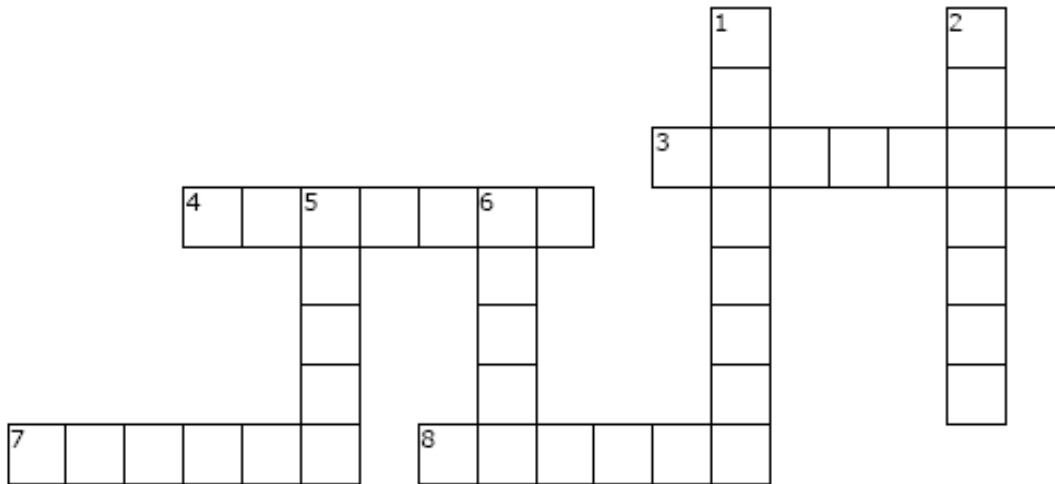
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Prepare the Way

As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" Luke 3:4 (NIV)



ACROSS

3. Having bends, curves, or angles.
4. To grant a pardon for sin.
7. Having a surface free from roughness
8. To turn away from one's sins.

DOWN

1. Having no bends or curves.
2. To make things ore oneself ready.
5. Having an irregular, course, or shaggy surface
6. What we use to speak.

repent	voice	crooked	rough
forgive	prepare	straight	smooth

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Instructions: Color and match the week number with the scripture below.

ADVENT



Week 1



Week 2



Week 3



Week 4



CHRISTMAS

WEEK ____ In those days the emperor Augustus commanded that everyone should be registered in his own town. Joseph, because he was of the family of King David, went with Mary, to Bethlehem, the city of David.

WEEK ____ Joseph did not understand what had occurred. While he pondered this, an angel of God spoke to him in a dream and said, Joseph, son of David, do not hesitate to take Mary as your wife, because she has conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son which you will name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.

WEEK ____ The angel Gabriel was sent from God to Mary in Nazareth, a town of Galilee. She was to be married to Joseph of the family of David. The angel said: "Hail, Mary full of Grace, the Lord is with you!" She was startled by his words. But the angel said to her, "Fear not, Mary, for you have found favor with God. You will have a son and will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High." ... "The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will cover you; therefore your child will be called holy, the Son of God." Mary said: "I am the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done to me as you say." Then the angel left her.

WEEK ____ Mary then set out and travelled to the hill country to the house of Zechariah and Elizabeth, who the angel had said were with child as a sign that what he had said was true. When Mary greeted Elizabeth... Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and cried out, "Blessed are you amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!"