



Friends of Jesus and Mary

Cycle C - III Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3, 14-18; Psalm-Isaiah 12, 3.4bcd 5-6; Philippians 4, 4-7; Luke 3, 10-18

One Mightier is Coming

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" He said to them in reply, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He answered them, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed." Soldiers also asked him, "And what is it that we should do?" He told them, "Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages." Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people.

Reflection

The people felt that John was a man of God and possibly the Messiah. Who was John? (He was a prophet that prepared the way for Jesus. Also, he was Jesus' cousin.) **What did they ask him?** (What should we do?) **What did John answer?** (Share with those in need, be honest in your work...) **How did John clear up that he was not the Messiah?** (He said that one mightier than he was coming. He was not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.) **What does John say that the Messiah will do that he cannot do?** (John baptized with water, but the Messiah would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. The baptism of the Messiah has the power to forgive our sins and make us part of God's family; the baptism of John was only symbolic of conversion.) **What would the Messiah do?** (He would separate the wheat from the chaff, in other words the just from the unjust so the just may live with Him for eternity.)

Activity

On the 1st two pages, talk about the symbols of Baptism and how they represent the power of God cleansing our heart and filling us with His Spirit and making us a part of His family. St. John's baptism only symbolized conversion. On the last page, watch the movie, the Story of Christmas. Put the pictures in chronological order by writing the correct number in the circle. Or make a book of the Story of Christmas. Talk about what you can give baby Jesus on His birthday.

Prayer

Lord, although you are King of the Universe, you came into the world small and helpless. Teach us to always be humble like You so we may always hear your voice and follow you. Never let your light stop shining in my heart. I love you. **Amen.**

Song: The Little Drummer Boy, Everythinglearnlove, (Ctrl Click) <https://youtu.be/6p5icEYBus>

PPT: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1z7TxfwO_vBwbog7_BB188b7kQnSeuTSQ/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=115268475267556305384&rtpof=true&sd=true





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Water



Oil



Cross



White Garment



Candle



Through Baptism we are freed from sin and become part of God's family.

Symbols

- Water:** God cleanses our soul of Original Sin.
- Oil:** God sends the gift of the Holy Spirit upon us.
- Cross:** The sign of the cross marks with the imprint of Christ and signifies the grace of the redemption Christ won for us by his cross.
- White**
- Garment:** Person is purified and "puts on Christ".
- Candle:** God enlightens the baptized who becomes light for others.
- Words:** I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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PASCHAL CANDLE

Symbol of the Resurrected Christ.

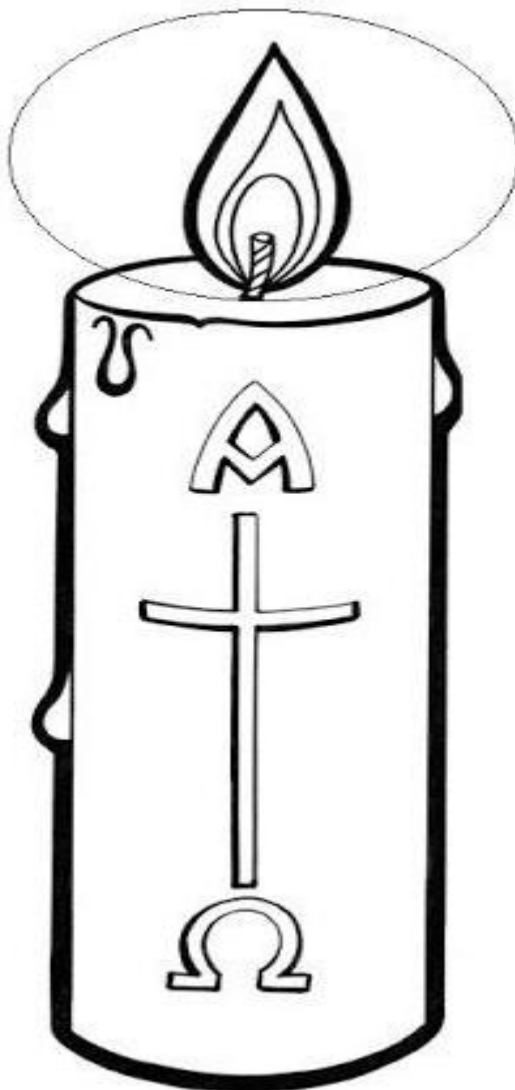
The Cross remembers His death.

The Greek letters Alpha and Omega (meaning beginning and end)
and the current year signal Him the King of History.

The Baptism candle is lit from the Paschal candle symbolizing the light
of Christ that lights in us at Baptism and which we take to others.

Instructions:

Color, cut, and write the
number of the current
year in each inner corner
of the cross. Glue to a
toilet paper roll.





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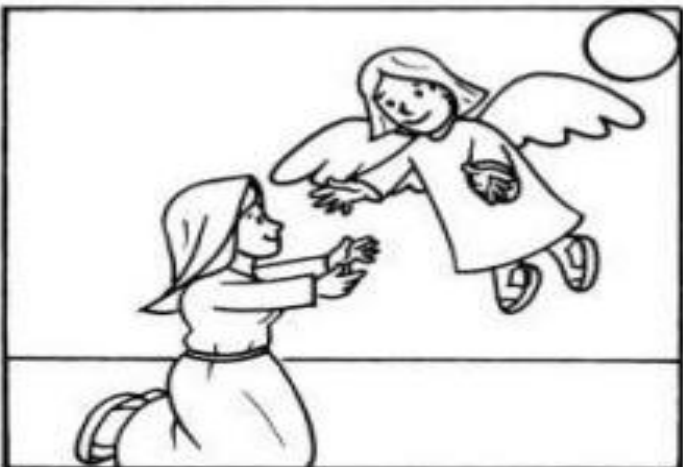
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The Christmas Story, JJohn, (Ctrl Click) <https://youtu.be/Dbp24wZQa3Y>

See the movie and put the pictures in chronological order by writing the appropriate numbers in the circle. Make a book: cut the pictures and color, fold a piece of construction paper in half from left to right. Later fold in 3 parts from top to bottom. Cut the 3 parts and place together stapling them at the fold. Glue the pictures to each page.



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