

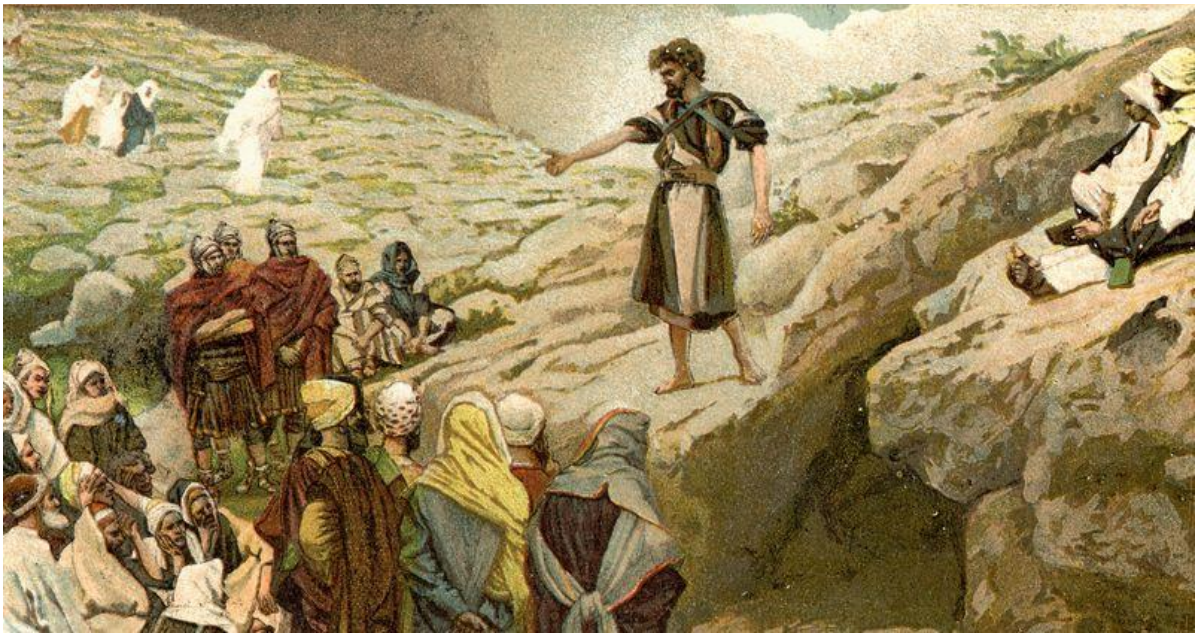
CATECHESIS@HOME 2022 #34

"PREPARE A WAY FOR THE LORD"

(2nd Sunday of Advent)



Prepared by Archdiocesan Catechetical Centre
Archdiocese of Kuala Lumpur



INTRODUCTION

Dear parents and guardians. This material has been prepared to provide families an opportunity to gather and spend time reflecting and discussing about the gospel reading of 2nd Sunday of Advent.

HOW TO USE THE MATERIAL

This document contains activities that members of the family may complete individually (just the children), in pairs (with parental assistance), or as an entire family. It would be helpful to print a hard-copy, so that members of your family may carry out different activities at the same time.

WHEN TO USE THE MATERIAL

During the week after the family has celebrated the Mass of 2nd Sunday of Advent.

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we have gathered here in the name of Jesus. Thank you for reminding us that the Season of Advent is a time to prepare for your coming into our lives in a new way. Holy Spirit, guide us during this gathering. We make this prayer in Jesus' name, Amen.



SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Invite someone to read Matthew 3: 1-12. Later, reflect on the questions given together as a family, and share your responses with one another. (If necessary, parents are encouraged to rephrase the information and questions according to their children's level of understanding).

Time of reflection and response:

1. What can we learn about the character of John the Baptist from today gospel passage?
2. What is the message that God wants to give us during the Season of Advent through John the Baptist?

John the Baptist did not go to the biggest cities or the capital city Jerusalem to take his message. Instead, he preached in the wilderness, that is, in the desert. Why? This is where God had called him to do his ministry. The desert is a dry, lonely and dangerous place. John has to rely totally on God for his daily food and protection.

The message he preached was not his own but came from God. This is why many people went out from the city to the desert to listen to him. The people were willing to travel far and suffer hardships to do so. They were willing to sacrifice because they believed the message John was teaching was important. God's Word is powerful. It inspires and changes people's hearts.

The mission of John the Baptist was to point people to Christ. It was to prepare their hearts for the coming Messiah. His desire was that more people would follow Jesus. He labored his whole life, but not for himself. He didn't care about being popular. He didn't care about his own reputation. He didn't care about hanging on to his own followers. His mission was all about Jesus.

Our mission, like John the Baptist, is to point people to Christ. Our mission is to reflect the light of Christ to a dark world. We have to tell people that Jesus has come and that He is coming again. We want the people around us to be ready when He does. Also, we learn from John that wherever God calls us to share His words, we have to do it faithfully and He will use us to accomplish His purposes.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

Below you will find some activities for younger children, revolving around the Sunday Gospel. Select the activities you would like to complete with your children, or try to complete them all if you can!

Activity #1: Find the words

A Voice in the Wilderness

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."
Matthew 3:1-2 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Matthew 3:1-12 (NIV).



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

PREPARE	STRAIGHT	CLOTHES	LOCUSTS	REPENT
PATHS	BELT	LORD	KINGDOM	PROPHET
JOHN	DESERT	BAPTIST	HONEY	LEATHER
CAMEL	HEAVEN	PREACHING	HAIR	WILD

Activity #2: Match the correct word

A Voice in the Wilderness



In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."
Matthew 3:1-2 (NIV)

Choose the word that best matches the definition.

- ___ 1. The man who preached that Jesus was coming
A. Peter B. John C. Joseph D. Thomas
- ___ 2. The sounds that are made when people speak or sing
A. sight B. barking C. voice D. chirping
- ___ 3. One who speaks for God, or tells what will happen in the future
A. prophet B. announcer C. evangelist D. teacher
- ___ 4. To be sorry for something bad you have done and make a change
A. baptize B. preach C. repent D. beg
- ___ 5. An area where there is little rain and not many plants
A. mountains B. desert C. valley D. plains
- ___ 6. To get ready for something that is going to happen
A. prepare B. preach C. baptize D. prophet
- ___ 7. To deliver a sermon
A. sing B. baptize C. preach D. voice
- ___ 8. What John did in the Jordan River
A. baptized B. drowned C. preached D. fished

Activity #3: Break the code

A Voice in the Wilderness

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." Matthew 3:1-2 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
M	C	H	E	Z	V	O	I	F	S	U	A	N	W	X	B	J	K	L	G	P	Y	R	Q	T	D

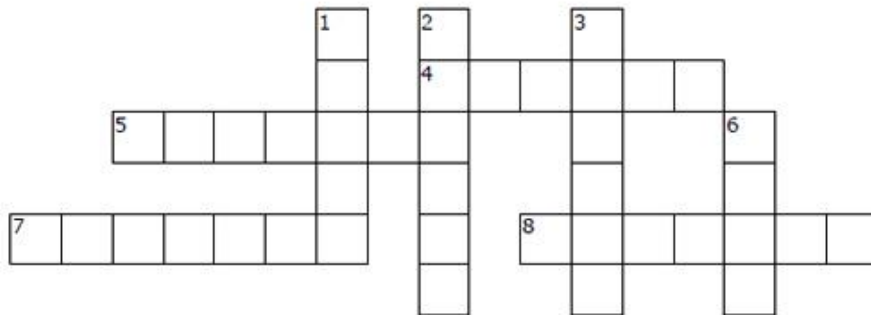
- 10-25-23-12-8-20-3-25 _____
- 26-4-10-4-23-25 _____
- 19-7-2-11-10-25-10 _____
- 21-23-4-12-2-3 _____
- 3-7-13-4-22 _____
- 21-12-25-3-10 _____
- 16-12-21-25-8-5-4 _____
- 21-23-4-21-12-23-4 _____

LOCUSTS	PATHS	HONEY	STRAIGHT
PREACH	PREPARE	BAPTIZE	DESERT

Activity #4: Solve the puzzle

A Voice in the Wilderness

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."
Matthew 3:1-2 (NIV)



ACROSS

4. To be sorry for something bad you have done and make a change
5. What John did to people in the Jordan River
7. To get ready for something that is going to happen
8. One who speaks for God, or tells what will happen in the future

DOWN

1. The sounds that are made when people speak or sing
2. To deliver a sermon
3. An area where there is little rain and not many plants
6. The man who preached that Jesus was coming

REPENT	PREACH	VOICE	BAPTIZE
JOHN	PROPHET	DESERT	PREPARE

Activity #5: Fill in the blanks

A Voice in the Wilderness Fill in the blanks

The _____ tells us that in the days before _____ began his ministry, a man called _____ began _____ and telling the people to _____ for the coming _____. When _____ told people to prepare for the King, he didn't mean that they should go _____ and _____ the floor, pick up their _____, and make their _____. He meant that they should prepare their _____. How? By _____ of their _____ and turning toward _____. When they did this, John would _____ them in the _____. That is how _____ got the name, "_____."


Word Box

Bible	hearts	God	sweep	Jordan River
John	toys	prepare	King	preaching
Jesus	baptize	John	repenting	
beds	sins	home	John the Baptist	

Activity #6: Find the words

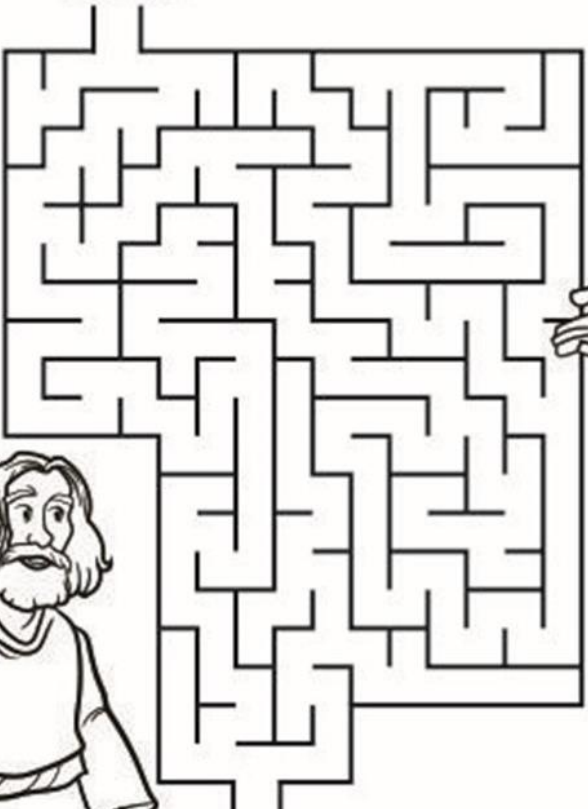
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R	E	I	E	G	A	S	S	E	M
E	E	O	R	N	I	T	E	S	D
R	R	V	D	I	N	I	N	S	E
T	R	A	I	E	V	I	R	E	H
Y	L	A	P	R	A	E	E	G	C
S	E	E	N	E	C	A	D	A	A
E	R	N	B	I	R	I	L	N	E
C	N	H	O	J	A	P	I	A	R
I	O	V	I	H	I	S	W	S	P

- JOHN
- PREACHED
- WILDERNESS
- MESSAGE
- REPENT
- VOICE
- PREPARE
- BELT
- LOCUSTS
- HONEY
- SANDALS
- RIVER

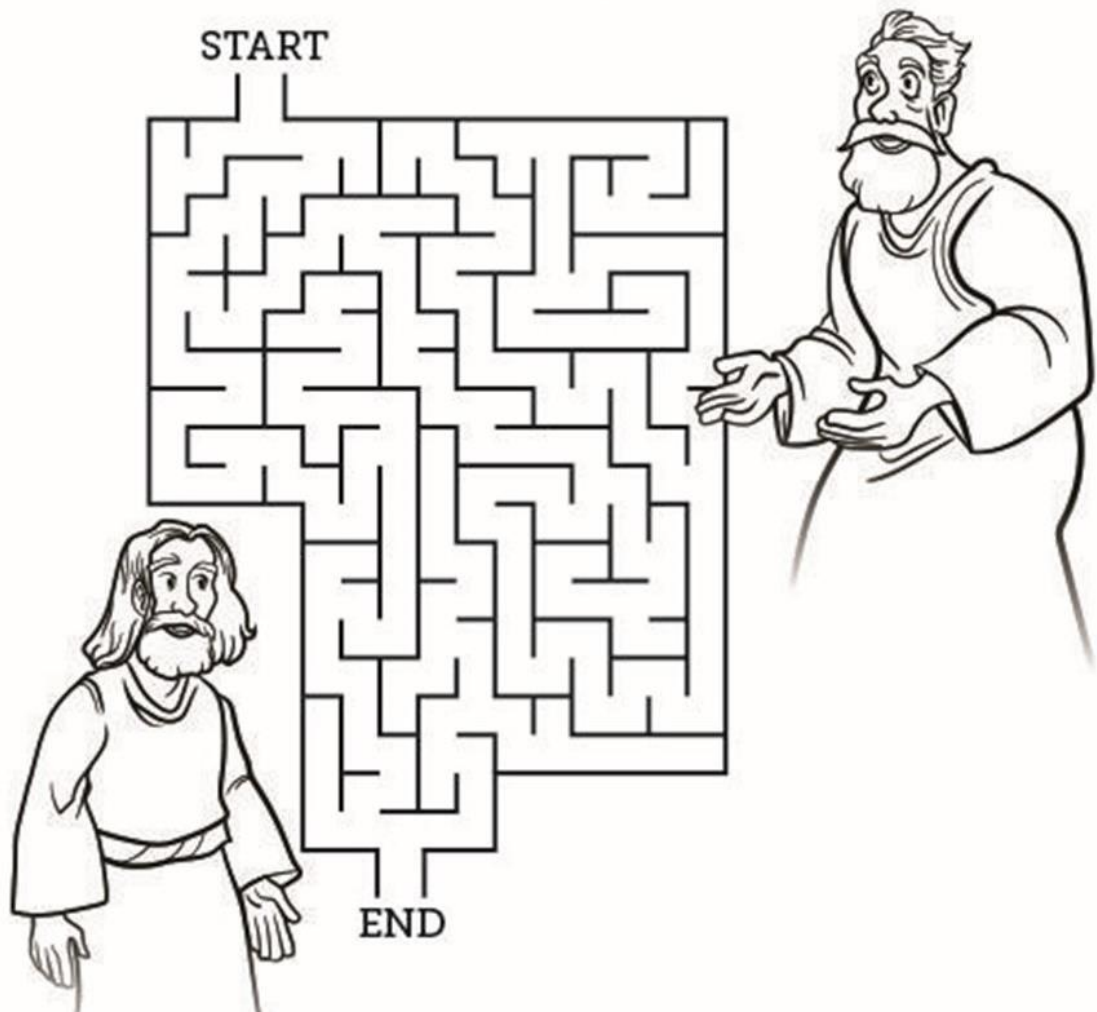


Activity #7: Lead John the Baptist to Jesus

START



END



Activity #8: Find the words


John the Baptist Word Search

Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle. The words can be right to left, up and down, or diagonally.

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

BAPTISM	JORDAN	MESSIAH	SINS
HONEY	LOCUST	REPENT	WATER
JOHN	MESSENGER	RIVER	WILDERNESS


Activity #9: Unscramble the word



John the Baptist Word Scramble

Unscramble each of the clue words. Take the letters that appear in the circle boxes and unscramble them to find the answer to the last phrase.

SIBATPM	□ □ □ □ □ □ ○	
NYOEH	□ ○ □ □ □	
HOJN	○ □ □ □	
DANOJR	□ □ □ □ □ □	
STLUCO	□ □ ○ ○ □ □	
RSMENSEEG	□ □ ○ □ □ □ ○ □ □	
MSSAEHI	□ □ □ □ ○ □ □	
NERTPE	□ □ □ □ ○ □	
RIRVE	□ ○ □ □ □	
NSIS	□ □ □ ○	
RAWTE	□ □ □ ○ □	
WESISLDNER	□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ ○ □	



John told the people this:

□ □ □ □ □

□ □

□ □ □ □ □ □ □

Activity #10: Colour the picture and tell the story

