

Young Apprentices

A RESOURCE FOR THE RCIA

CATECHUMENATE SESSION: DESIRE FOR GOD

Second Sunday of Advent • Year B • December 10, 2023

God of love,

John the Baptist
prepared the way for Christ's coming
by calling people
to turn from their sinful ways
and to follow your ways.

In these Advent days,
help us respond to John's call
by seeking the Messiah
and preparing the way of the Lord.

Amen.



Sunday Word

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Psalms 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14

2 Peter 3:8-14

Mark 1:1-8

The above readings are available at
usccb.org/bible/readings.

To Help You Remember



1. Prophets speak God's message to God's people.
2. John the Baptist was a prophet who called people to turn away from sin and to follow God's ways.
3. We are called to prepare the way of the Lord in the world today.

Key Teachings



A Mighty Prophet

The people came to John the Baptist in huge crowds. They listened to his message and turned their hearts back to God.

Our Longing

God has placed within our hearts a longing for him. Reading God's Word, praying, enjoying creation, celebrating the sacraments, and serving others help us come to know that true happiness comes in knowing God.

The Covenant

Long ago God promised Israel that they would be his people and he would be their God. This was God's Covenant with Israel. Jesus, the new Covenant, invites us to be God's daughters and sons and to put our faith in God alone.

Faith Words



prophet

A prophet is a person chosen by God to speak in his name.



Covenant

The Covenant is the solemn agreement and promise of friendship made between God and his people.

Did You Know?

Did you know that Saint John the Baptist's mother, Saint Elizabeth, was the cousin of the Blessed Virgin Mary? His father was Saint Zechariah, whose song of praise is sung in the Morning Prayer of the Church each day.

With My Family



We Listen

We meet an important character today, a mighty prophet named John the Baptist. Not only is he Jesus' cousin, but he has a very important role in Salvation History; he prepares the way for the Messiah. Notice how the First Reading from the Old Testament foretells of John. Read the Gospel again and write down or share some of the other cool things we learn about John.

We Believe

Jesus established the new Covenant. The prophet Isaiah warned the Israelites to be faithful to God's Covenant with Israel. When the Messiah, Jesus, comes, he establishes a new Covenant with all of humanity. The Covenant is a deep and solemn promise that God will always love us and be faithful to us. During Advent, we are reminded by Isaiah and by John that we must be faithful too.

We Live As Disciples

John the Baptist had disciples and so did Jesus. But what makes Jesus' disciples different? Together decide one thing your family will do this week to show that you are disciples of Jesus and you are preparing the way for his coming.

We Pray

This week you will light two candles on the Advent wreath. After you light the second candle, pause for a moment of silence. Then pray the prayer on the front of the participant page and ask each member of the family to share how they will prepare the way for the Messiah this week.