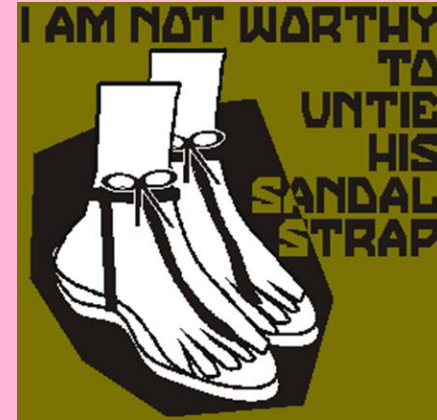


Getting Ready for Sunday!



The Third Sunday of Advent



Matthew 11:2-11

Messengers from John the Baptist



**The Third purple candle
will be lit this Sunday
marking the beginning of
the third week of
preparing for Christmas.**

The third Sunday of is called *Gaudete Sunday*, meaning *Joyful Sunday*.



We celebrate the facts that -

- we are coming closer to Christmas!
- we have made efforts to repent (change) and become closer in friendship with our loving Creator.
- We have an opportunity to make a fresh start.

The **pink/rose candle** on the Advent wreath is lit this week along with the two **purple/violet candles**.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him:



*Are you the one who
is to come, or are we
to wait for another?*

Jesus answered them:

Jesus offered a message of JOY for John when he was in prison for his faith.

Jesus offered healing, health, resurrection and joy to all whom He met.

Do you lift people in your company up with hope, joy, peace and love?

Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.



As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John:

What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind?



**Look for God in
your daily life
and in the
people around
you each day?**

The people thought that Jesus would be born as a rich prince of king!

God chose to make Himself in a normal humble lifestyle and ordinary family!

Jesus chooses to live in your family too – in each person in your family!

Can you see Him?



***What then did you go out to see?
Someone dressed in soft robes? Look,
those who wear soft robes are in royal
palaces.***



What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.



This is the one about whom it is written:



*See, I am sending
my messenger
ahead of you, who
will prepare your
way before you.*

**A prophet is one who prepares the way for
God.**

**The prophet speaks the truth – even if
nobody want to hear it!**

The prophet brings about justice!

**Jesus is greater than the prophets – He is
truth about which they speak!**

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.



**We are each
small in
comparison with
God!
Yet we each have
a great purpose
to live in life!**

Third Sunday of Advent

We celebrate the third week of Advent in the spirit of Joy.

This is marked by lighting the pink candle in the Advent wreath.

We are past the halfway mark in our preparation for Christmas on the third Sunday!

Draw a picture of a large pink candle.

How are you going to share the gift of joy with your friends and family this week?

Draw a picture/or write the names of the people with whom you will share the gift of Joy.



Bible Search

Read **Matthew 3:1-12** in your family Bible-this is the Gospel reading at Mass this Sunday.



Consider



How can you share joy this week?

Praying to Jesus



**Pray for the grace to know joy in the
message of God's love for you!**

