

Getting Ready for Sunday!

10 December 2023



The Second Sunday of Advent

Mark 1:1-8

The Proclamation of John the Baptist



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

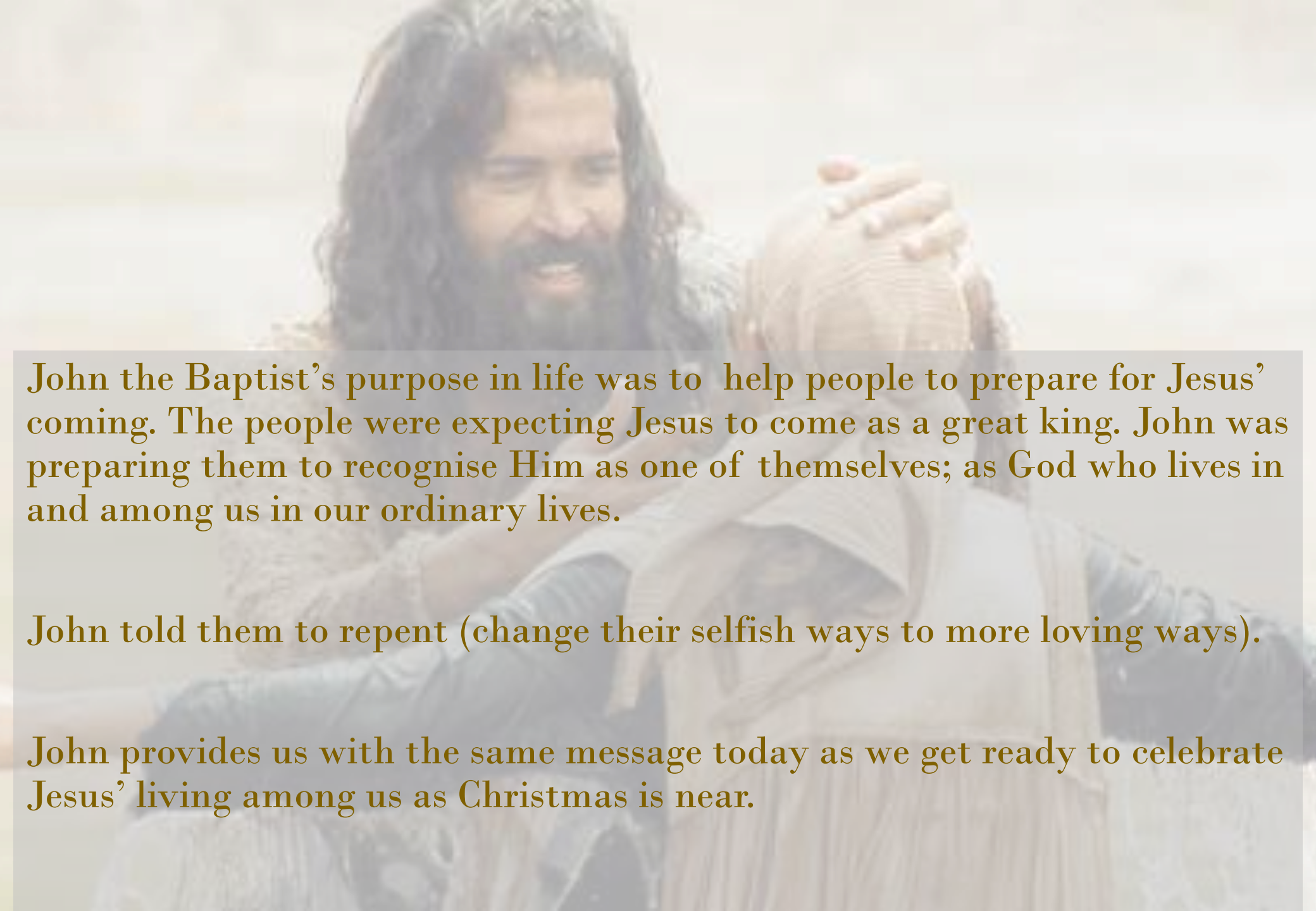
The scene of today's Gospel is in the region of Judea and at the River Jordan.



Region of Judea

River Jordan

The Jordan River



John the Baptist's purpose in life was to help people to prepare for Jesus' coming. The people were expecting Jesus to come as a great king. John was preparing them to recognise Him as one of themselves; as God who lives in and among us in our ordinary lives.

John told them to repent (change their selfish ways to more loving ways).

John provides us with the same message today as we get ready to celebrate Jesus' living among us as Christmas is near.




Who was John the Baptist?

- John the Baptist was Jesus' cousin.
- His parents were Zechariah and Elizabeth.
- He was born a few months before Jesus.

Open your Bible to find out more about John the Baptist.

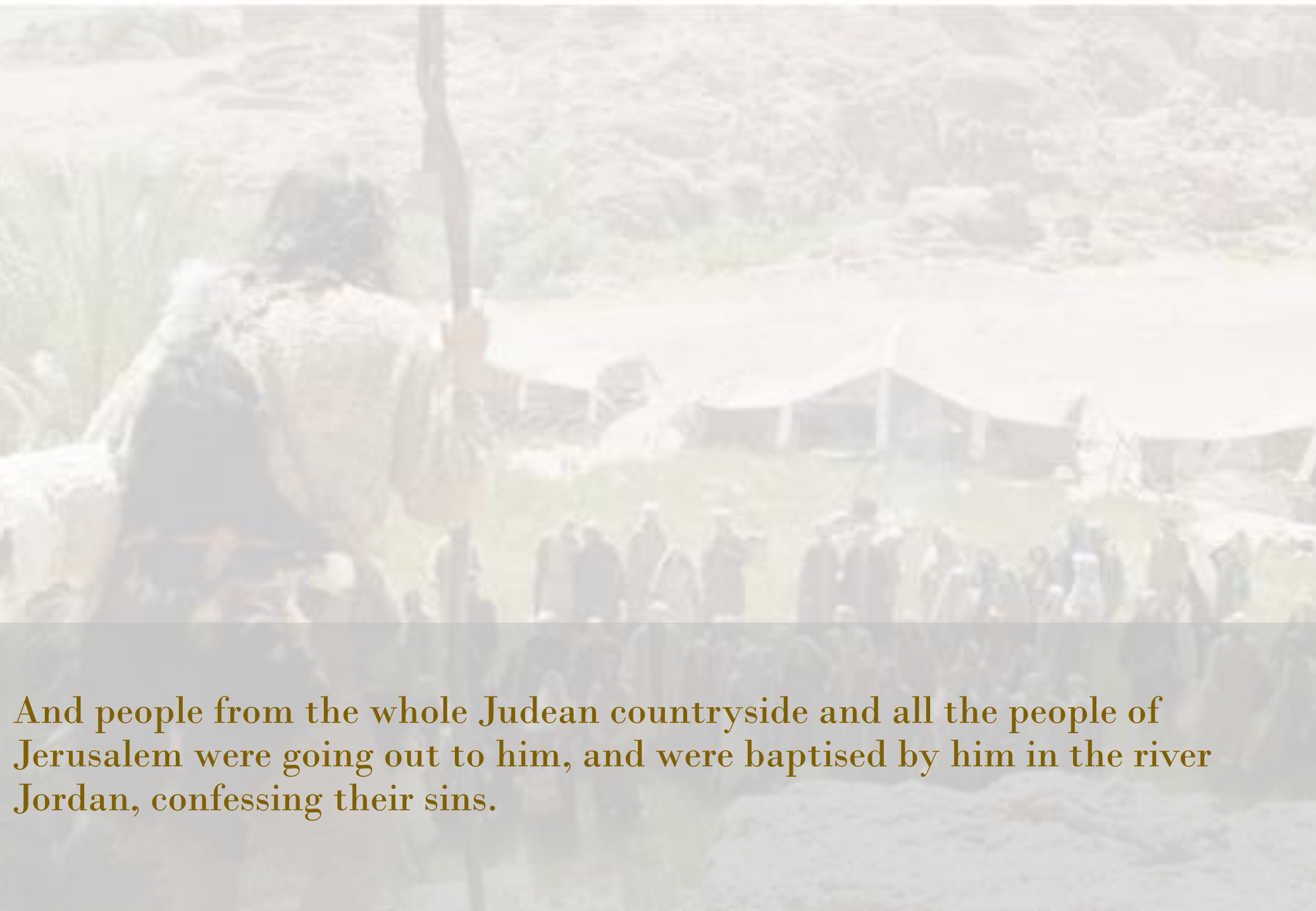
Read Luke 1:5-25 & Luke 1:39-80.



The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight”’

John the baptiser appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.





And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.



He proclaimed:



The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals.

I have baptised you with water; but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.



Second Sunday of Advent



John the Baptist tells us that we need to repent as we get ready for Jesus' coming!

The word repent means 'to change'.

What do you need to change in your life to become more loving like Jesus?

Do you need to help your family more?

Do you need to pray more often?

Do you need to stop asking for more than you need?

When you have decided how you are going to change draw a candle on a page and as you draw the flame on the candle let that be your promise to try to change.

Bible Search

Read Mark 1:1-14 in your family Bible - this is the Gospel reading at Mass this Sunday.



Consider



*What change do you need to make in yourself
to try to become a more loving person?*

Praying to Jesus



Pray for the grace to know how you can
straighten your path to God this week.

