

Year B - Second Sunday of Advent

Mark 1:1-8

Make straight the paths of the Lord



This is the good news about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
It began just as God had said in the book written by Isaiah the prophet,

"I am sending my messenger to get the way ready for you.
In the desert someone is shouting, 'Get the road ready for the Lord!
Make a straight path for him.'"

So John the Baptist showed up in the desert and told everyone,
"Turn back to God and be baptised! Then your sins will be forgiven."

From all Judea and from Jerusalem crowds of people went to John.
They told how sorry they were for their sins, and he baptised them in the Jordan River.

John wore clothes made of camel's hair.
He had a leather strap around his waist and ate grasshoppers and wild honey.

John also told the people, "Someone more powerful is going to come.
And I am not good enough even to stoop down and untie his sandals.
I baptise you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit!"



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Someone more powerful is going to come



Message

- Today we begin the Season of Advent, which marks the beginning of the new liturgical year for the Church. Jesus warns his disciples, and us, to be watchful so that they will be ready for the birth of Jesus and also for his return at the end of time
- The theme for this week of Advent is HOPE
- Before he returned to heaven, Jesus promised that one day he would return. In today's Gospel, Jesus is telling us that we must be ready when he comes again, but we have no idea when that will be.
- As we don't know when he is coming, we must try to be ready all the time.
- Do you think Jesus means we have to stay awake all the time - that we can never go to sleep?
- No, of course not!
- So, what do you think Jesus means when he says 'watch out and be ready', 'stay awake'?
- Jesus means to stay close to Jesus and to follow him in our daily lives: pray, keep learning about Jesus, be kind to others and keep growing as a member of the Church through the sacraments and through helping out in our own way.
- Advent is a time when we especially think about getting ready to welcome Jesus, when we remember his birth at Christmas and when he comes again.

Discussion questions

- When are some of the times that it is hard to choose to follow God's ways?
- What are some of the things that tempt us?
- What are some of the ways we can practice following God so that we can make strong choices like Jesus?
- What would you like to do this Advent to be more 'ready' for Jesus?

✨ be ready ✨

