

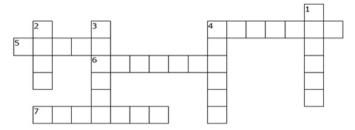
Ready for the Christ of Christmas

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

Based on Matthew 3:1-12



JOHN THE BAPTIST



ACROSS

- One who speaks for God, or tells what will happen in the future
- The sounds that are made when people speak or sing
- To get ready for something that is going to happen
- What John did to people in the Jordan River

DOWN

- An area where there is little rain and not many plants
- 2. The man who preached that Jesus was coming
- To be sorry for something bad you have done and make a change
- 4. To deliver a sermon

VOICE PREPARE DESERT PROPHET	REPENT JOHN PREACH BAPTIZE
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WEEKDAY READINGS (PSALTER WEEK 2)

08 Monday - Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Genesis 3: 9-15, 20; Luke 1: 26-38

09 Tuesday - Advent Weekday

Isaiah 40: 1-11; Matthew 18: 12-1

10 Wednesday - Advent Weekday Isaiah 40: 25-31; Matthew 11: 28-30

11 Thursday - Advent Weekday St. Damasus I, Pope

Isaiah 41: 13-20; Matthew 11: 11-15

12 Friday - Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zechariah 2: 14-17 or Revelation 11: 19a; 12: 1-6a, 10ab; Luke 1:

26-38 or Luke 1: 39-47

13 Saturday - St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

Sirach 48: 1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17: 9a, 10-13

REFLECTION

Last Sunday we began Advent with the call to be vigilant; today, the Second Sunday of this season of preparation for Christmas, the liturgy indicates to us its proper content: it is a time to recognize the shortcomings in our life, to smooth out the roughness of pride and to make room for Jesus who comes.

The Prophet Isaiah addresses the people, proclaiming the end of the Exile in Babylon and the return to Jerusalem. He prophesies: "A voice cries: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord... Every valley shall be lifted up" (40:3-4). The valleys to be lifted up represent all the shortcomings of our behaviour before God, all our sins of omission. One shortcoming in our life could be the fact that we do not pray or that we pray little. Advent is thus a favourable time to pray with greater intensity, to reserve to the spiritual life the important place it deserves. Another shortcoming could be a lack of charity for our neighbour, above all toward people most in need of help, not only material, but also spiritual. We are called to be more attentive, closer, to the needs of others. Like John the Baptist, in this way we can open the ways of hope in the desert of the barren hearts of many people.

"Every mountain and hill shall be made low" (cf. v. 4), Isaiah again exhorts. The mountains and hills that must be made low are pride, arrogance, insolence. Where there is pride, where there is insolence, where there is arrogance, the Lord cannot enter because that heart is full of pride, of insolence, of arrogance. For this reason, we must allay this pride. We must take on attitudes of meekness and humility, without reproach, to listen, to speak with meekness and thus to prepare for the coming of our Saviour, He who is meek and humble of heart (cf. Mt 11:29). Then we are asked to eliminate all obstacles that we set against our union with the Lord: "the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed" — says Isaiah — "and all flesh shall see it together" (40:4-5). These actions, however, must be performed with joy, because they are designed in preparation for the coming of Jesus. At home, when we await the visit of a dear person, we prepare everything with care and gladness. In the same way, we want to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord: to await him each day attentively, so as to be filled by his grace when he comes.

The Saviour whom we await is able to transform our life with his grace, with the power of the Holy Spirit, with the power of love.

The Holy Spirit, in fact, infuses our hearts with God's love, the inexhaustible source of purification, of new life and freedom. The Virgin Mary fully lived this reality, allowing herself to be 'baptized' by the Holy Spirit who inundated her with his power. May she, who prepared for the coming of Christ with the totality of her existence, help us to follow her example and may she guide our steps to the coming Lord.

(Pope Francis)

NOTICES

Our Diocesan celebration of the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception will be held this Sunday, December 7. We will begin with a rosary procession from the Upper Lucas Street Roundabout at 3:00 p.m. followed by the celebration Solemn Mass at the Cathedral. All parishes will process with their banners. Attendance at the Immaculate Conception celebration is open to all. Gift baskets are expected to be presented at mass to aid the Homes for the Aged.

Christmas Novena begins on Tuesday December, 16 at the Cathedral at 5 a.m. daily.

St. Joseph's RC Church (Pomme Rose) invites you to their Grand Harvest on Saturday 13th December at the school grounds, starting time 1:00 p.m.

Pope's prayer intention for December 2025

For Christians in areas of conflict Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Nutrition Tip for the week

We all need less than a teaspoon of salt daily. Foods naturally contain sodium or salt and the highly processed foods contain more than 1/2 a teaspoon per serving. Eat local and use herbs & spices to flavour foods.



Catechesis Corner

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS CONT... THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT Cont...

IV. Offenses Against the Dignity of Marriage Adultery

Adultery refers to marital infidelity. When two partners, of whom at least one is married to another party, have sexual relations - even transient ones - they commit adultery. Christ condemns even adultery of mere desire. (cf. Mt 5:27-28). The sixth commandment and the New Testament forbid adultery absolutely. (cf. Mt 5:32; 19:6; Mk 10:11; 1 Cor 6:9-10). The prophets denounce the gravity of adultery; they see it as an image of the sin of idolatry. (cf. Hos 2:7; Jer 5:7; 13:27).

Adultery is an injustice. He who commits adultery fails in his commitment. He does injury to the sign of the covenant which the marriage bond is, transgresses the rights of the other spouse, and undermines the institution of marriage by breaking the contract on which it is based. He compromises the good of human generation and the welfare of children who need their parents' stable union.

Divorce

The Lord Jesus insisted on the original intention of the Creator who willed that marriage be indissoluble.173 He abrogates the accommodations that had slipped into the old Law. (*cf. Mt 19:7-9*). Between the baptized, "a ratified and consummated marriage cannot be dissolved by any human power or for any reason other than death." (*CIC, can. 1141*).

The separation of spouses while maintaining the marriage bond can be legitimate in certain cases provided for by canon law. (*cf. CIC, cann. 1151-1155*). If civil divorce remains the only possible way of ensuring certain legal rights, the care of the children, or the protection of inheritance, it can be tolerated and does not constitute a moral offense.

Divorce is a grave offense against the natural law. It claims to break the contract, to which the spouses freely consented, to live with each other till death. Divorce does injury to the covenant of salvation, of which sacramental marriage is the sign. Contracting a new union, even if it is recognized by civil law, adds to the gravity of the rupture: the remarried spouse is then in a situation of public and permanent adultery: If a husband, separated from his wife, approaches another woman, he is an adulterer because he makes that woman commit adultery, and the woman who lives with him is an adulteress, because she has drawn another's husband to herself. (St. Basil, Moralia 73, 1: PG 31, 849-852).

Divorce is immoral also because it introduces disorder into the family and into society. This disorder brings grave harm to the deserted spouse, to children traumatized by the separation of their parents and often torn between them, and because of its contagious effect which makes it truly a plague on society. It can happen that one of the spouses is the innocent victim of a divorce decreed by civil law; this spouse therefore has not contravened the moral law. There is a considerable difference between a spouse who has sincerely tried to be faithful to the sacrament of marriage and is unjustly abandoned, and one who through his own grave fault destroys a canonically valid marriage. (*cf. FC 84*).

To be cont'd

COLLECTIONS:

1st Sunday of Advent/A - 30th November, 2025

Total:	\$ 4,857.95		
Tempe	\$ 241.25	Mt. Moritz	\$ 310.00
Happy Hill	\$ 949.00	Brizan	\$ 110.00
Cathedral 8.00 a.m.	\$ 1650.05	Fontenoy	\$ 146.30
Cathedral 6.00 p.m.	\$ 725.60	Belmont	\$ 725.75

May God bless your kindness and generosity!

Prayer for the Discernment of A New Bishop

O God, Eternal Shepherd, who govern your flock with unchanging care, grant to your Church in St. George's-in-Grenada a shepherd who will faithfully follow in the footsteps of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Give us a Bishop filled with wisdom and understanding so that, guided by your Holy Spirit, he may be a faithful pastor, a prudent teacher, wise in discerning the needs of our diocese and region. Strengthen him to uphold the gospel of truth, to lead your flock with humility and courage and to build up the Body of Christ in love and holiness. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Immaculate Mary, Mother of the Church, pray with us and for us. **Amen.**

Parish Pastoral Team: Fr. CARL HAYNES (Cathedral Administrator)

DEACON RAPHAEL JOHNSON (Parish Deacon)

THE PRESENTATION BROTHERS

CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Our Lady Queen of Peace, **BELMONT/SPRINGS** Saints Joachim & Anne, **BRIZAN**;

Blessed Trinity, **FONTENOY**;

Church of the Uganda Martyrs, **HAPPY HILL**; Our Lady Queen of the Universe, **MT. MORITZ**; St. Benedict the Moor, **RIVER ROAD/DARBEAU**

Our Lady Lily of the Valley, **TEMPE.**



2nd Sunday of Advent /A - December 7th, 2025

Sunday Mass Schedules:

Cathedral Saturday: 6:00 p.m. Belmont Saturday: 6:00 p.m. Brizan Sunday: 6:30 a.m. Cathedral Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Happy Hill Sunday: 8:00 a.m.
Tempe Sunday: 8:00 a.m.
Fontenoy Sunday: 10:00 a.m.
Mt. Moritz Sunday: 10:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses:

Cathedral: 6:15 a.m. & 12:15 p.m. Happy Hill - Wednesday - 6 pm

CONFESSION:

Cathedral: Saturdays: 7.00 a.m. - 8.00 a.m. (Priests available at request)

Welcome!

In today's liturgy we hear again the lonely voice of John the Baptist exhorting us to prepare a way for the Lord. Let us create a space in our minds and hearts so that the Lord can come to us in this Eucharist.

First Reading: From the Prophet Isaiah chapter 11 verses 1 to 10. We hear about the coming of the Messiah, and the kind of justice and peace he would bring.

Second Reading: This talks about the importance of hope, and how we should treat others in the same friendly way Christ has treated us. From St. Paul's letter to the Romans chapter 15 verses 4 to 9.

Gospel: According to Matthew chapter 3 verses 1 to 12. We hear once again the voice of John the Baptist, saying to us what he said to his contemporaries: 'Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is close at hand.