GOSPED

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark 1:1-8

This is the beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Isaiah, the prophet, wrote:

"I am sending my messenger to prepare the way for you. He will proclaim.

'Prepare the way for the coming of God! Make a straight path for our God'

And so, John the Baptizer came, Telling everyone to change their lives and be baptized so their sins would be forgiven.

Many people around Jerusalem went to the desert to see John. They confessed their sins, and were baptized in the Jordan River.

John wore clothes made from the hair of camels. And he wore a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey.

When he preached, he always said,

"Someone else is coming after me, He is more powerful than I am. I am not even worthy to undo his sandals.

I am baptizing you in water,

But he will baptized you in the Holy Spirit."

The Gospel of the Lord.

A big part of St John's mission was about getting ready. How will you get ready for Jesus?

John the Baptist lived a very simple life. His clothes certainly weren't

fancy!

DDGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE

If you have an Advent wreath with candles at home, find some time to say the following Advent prayer.

Leader: We continue on our journey through Advent, and we prepare our hearts to receive God's own Son, Jesus Christ. We do this in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: We light the second candle on our wealth to show that Jesus, our light is coming.

Light the Candles (2 Purple).

Leader: Let us pray. Father of love, be with us during this season of Advent. Help us prepare our hearts for the birth of your Son, through our kind words, deeds and actions, and to grow in our love for you. Amen



Jamie's favourite season was Christmas, but he never liked waiting. He found it very hard to concentrate at school when all he could see around him were decorations, presents and Christmas trees. Every time he passed by a store it seemed like there was something more he wanted - a new toy, a new anything!

'I can't wait for Christmas to be here! I'm so ready!' Jamie sighed to his friend Cal. 'Are you ready, Cal?'

Cal was a quiet boy who always wore the same simple blue shirt and grey pants every day. He smiled.

'I'm getting ready, but there's still much to do!' Cal replied.

'What do you have to do?' Jamie thought he was missing something.

'I do a lot of helping at the church,' Cal said. 'But more importantly, sometimes I just need more quiet time, to think about God. Especially before Christmas. Since it gets so busy everywhere.'

'Quiet time?' Jamie repeated. But then, something inside him felt different.

Do you find enough quiet time for God this Advent?

