

# FAITH @Home

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Diocese of Waterford & Lismore

Celebrating and supporting faith, hope and love  
in the heart of the family!



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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## Sunday Mass Readings

### First Reading:

Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11

### Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 84 (85):9-14

### Second Reading:

2 Peter 3:8-14

### Gospel:

Mark 1:1-8

*"Prepare the way of  
the Lord, make  
straight his paths"*



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## Hear

Grab your Bible and look up the Gospel reading. Don't have one? No worries, you can find the text [here](#).

Watch this short [video](#) on the Gospel together as a family

## Pray

Gather around your family's Advent wreath and light the second purple candle, which represents HOPE.

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist is inviting people to repent and forgive in order to welcome Jesus. Many times we get excited to celebrate Christmas but forget that the season of Advent asks us to prepare our hearts. Ask Jesus in your own words to give you a hopeful heart in order to welcome Him to your home.

## Talk

Here are some suggestions to help you prepare your heart and home this Advent:

**For children:** Ask them to suggest ways to decorate your home for Jesus during this Advent season.

**For teens:** How will you prepare your surroundings to welcome Jesus?

**For Young Adults/Adults:** What are some of ways you see that the world is not ready for the coming of Jesus? How can you make a difference in preparing the way to the Lord?

## Family Challenge!

Perform an act of kindness for someone else every day this week. Find small ways to express your gratitude for others.

LEARN A NEW SONG!  
O COME, O COME EMMANUEL  
(CLICK HERE!)

# Kids' Corner

We're all busy getting our homes ready for Christmas! Can you think of 3 ways to get your heart ready to welcome Jesus?



Prepare  
the way  
of the  
Lord!

## THE NEED FOR CHANGE

He didn't look like them. He didn't talk like them. He was not part of the crowd that had always held power. Yet the people listened, and followed.

John the Baptist dressed in camels hair and had a leather belt. He didn't dress like the Scribes, Pharisees and Temple priests. He never was part of that crowd. But John the Baptist talked about change that was certainly coming. The thing is for that change to take place, it was the people who had to change. If there is going to be no more war, then people need to stop hating others. If there is going to be charity and care for all, then people needed to look inside their hearts and pull out the justice of God that resides there. If there is going to be change, then people needed to change.

That is the change we can believe in. "Prepare for the Lord," John the Baptist proclaims in the Gospel for this Second Sunday of Advent. Prepare for the Lord by preparing yourselves. And the people from throughout the Judean countryside and the inhabitants of Jerusalem went out to the Jordan River where John was preaching. And they confessed their sins. And they were baptised. And the change had begun.

By Fr Michael Toomey

## EVENTS



"The Light of Hope":

**Carols from Glencomeragh House**

Sun 20th December @ 7pm on the Waterford & Lismore YouTube Channel A Christmas Carol Service and Live Nativity Story for all the family, presented by **Holy Family Mission** and the **Diocese of Waterford and Lismore**

## Family Prayer

*Father in heaven, set our hearts ablaze to follow in the steps of John the Baptist. May we bring light and love to all we meet, that the darkness of sin and fear may be overcome. In Christ's name we ask this.*

## Carlo's Corner



Blessed Carlo Acutis - Pray for us!

### POINTING THE WAY TO JESUS

*"Sadness is looking at ourselves, happiness is looking towards God."*

John the Baptist pointed people to Jesus; he prepared the way for him. Carlo took every opportunity to point his friends and family to Jesus too. He knew Jesus was the source of true joy. Did you know his parents weren't even practicing Catholics, but that didn't stop him from building a solid relationship with God. Take some time to listen to this week's song, and in your heart, ask Jesus to come and be a part of your life.



Listen to Chris Tomlin's "Even so Come"



## CHECK IT OUT: "DIAL-A-PRAYER"



The Sisters of Mary Morning Star in Waterford City began Dial-a-Prayer last March, for anyone who would like the Sisters to pray for their intentions. **Phone 085 7611822 between 2 - 3pm each day with your intentions.** The Sisters promise to bring the intentions, thoughts and prayers of people in the Waterford and Lismore Diocese to the Lord in their adoration and daily Mass.