3rd Sunday of Advent

My Sunday Mass Page

Sunday, 13 December 2026 · John 1:6–8, 19–28

Name _____

1 Today's Gospel

John the Baptist: A Voice Pointing to the Light

God sent a man named John to be a **witness**. He came to tell everyone about the **light**, so that all might believe. John was not the light himself. He came to point to the true Light, who is Jesus.

Priests and Levites came from Jerusalem and asked him, "Who are you?" John said plainly, "I am not the Christ." They asked if he was Elijah or the Prophet, and he said no. So he answered with the words of Isaiah: "I am the **voice** of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord." He baptised with water, but someone they did not recognise was already among them, and John was not worthy to untie His **sandal**.

John was **humble**: he pointed away from himself to Jesus. That is why Gaudete Sunday is full of joy, because the One we wait for is already close, even when we do not notice Him. In Advent we make a straight way for Him by praying, saying sorry and clearing away selfish habits.

Big idea! John was only the voice; Jesus is **the true Light**. Like John, we can **point others to Him**.

> Listen at Mass: Today is Gaudete Sunday, which means "Rejoice!" Instead of a Psalm we sing Mary's song: *"My soul rejoices in my God."* St Paul adds: rejoice always and pray without ceasing!

> Go deeper: Look up Isaiah 40:3 in a Bible to find the words John quoted about himself. The Catechism calls John the Baptist the Lord's forerunner, sent to prepare His way (CCC 523).

2 Think It Through

Answer in a sentence or two.

1. What three things did John say he was not?

2. Why do you think John called himself only a "voice"?

3. What could you clear away to make a straight path for Jesus this Advent?

3 My Prayer

Write a prayer asking Jesus to help you get your heart ready for Christmas.

Dear Lord Jesus,

4 Design a Sign

Design a road sign for John's message: Make straight the way of the Lord! Show where the path leads.

Ideas: a straight road through the desert · an arrow pointing to Jesus · the pink candle for joy · bumps to clear away

"Make a straight way for the Lord." John 1:23