



Dear Parents and Carers,

In this Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist had heard about Jesus Christ's miracles and all the other wonderful things that he was doing. But John was puzzled because he had been expecting a Messiah sent by God to judge the world. So, from his prison cell, he sent messengers to ask if Jesus really was the Messiah.

Jesus did not come to judge the world. Instead, Jesus was seeking out people to offer them forgiveness and healing, both physical and spiritual.

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Forgiving and healing was Jesus' task all those years ago and, if we put our trust in him, this is what he will do for us even today.

Enjoy a very special Family Time together this evening, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this Wednesday's word, which is **CHRIST**.

*Dom Henry Wansbrough*



To see this week's Parish Version of The Wednesday Word: [wednesdayword.org](http://wednesdayword.org) - Parents' Pages - Lectio Divina with Fr Henry.

## THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2022



While John the Baptist was in prison, he heard what Christ was doing and he sent some of his followers to ask Christ, "Are you the one sent by God, or do we have to wait for someone else?" Jesus answered, "Go back and tell John what you hear and see: the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cured, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life. The Good News is being announced to the poor; and happy are those who do not lose faith in me." As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: "He is the one of whom scripture says: 'Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you'. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, one greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is."

*Adapted from Matthew 11: 2-11  
(the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent, Year A)*

**Everyone can learn more about this Gospel in Church - all are warmly invited.**

"With Christ, our life becomes full and everything makes sense." *Pope Francis*



As we read in this Sunday's Gospel, Christ was sent by God. Christ came for everyone - to bring us the fullness of life - to offer forgiveness and healing. He came to draw everyone into his love, so that we can become more like him and joyfully share in God's own life.

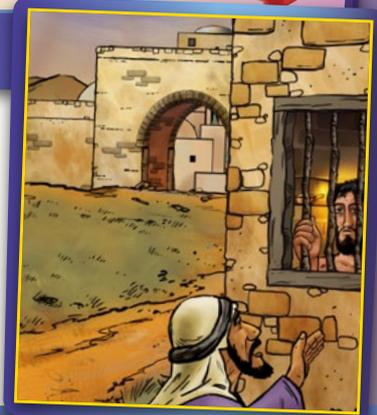


# 1 Our Special Time Together

Enjoy reading the Gospel overleaf (or below for younger children)

While John the Baptist was in prison, he heard about Christ's miracles and all that he was doing. So he sent some of his followers to ask Christ, "Are you the one sent by God, or do we have to wait for someone else?" Jesus answered, "Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind can see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cured, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life. The Good News is being announced to the poor. Happy and blessed are those who do not lose faith in me."

**What did John send some of his followers to ask Jesus?** Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? See the picture opposite. What does it make you think about?



# 2 Wednesday's Word is ...

# CHRIST

# 3 Loving God & Each Other

"For those who love, nothing is too difficult, especially when it is done for the love of Jesus Christ." *St Ignatius of Loyola*

Ask your child what they think the word 'Christ' means (parent help: the word 'Christ' means 'the anointed one', the one who is sent to save the world). Ask them what they have learnt at school about Christ's birth. What do they like best about the Christmas story? It may help your child if you share something that you know about Christ and his birth.

"Christ helps and strengthens us. He is a true friend." *St Teresa of Avila*

How can we live and love more like Christ as we journey through Advent? Perhaps we can: always try to be fair, honest, generous and ready to go out of our way to help anyone who is in need; make a special effort to let other family members know how much we love them. The word 'Christmas' comes from 'Mass of Christ'. Come and light a candle at Mass this Sunday (and on Christmas Day) - giving thanks to God for all the blessings that Christ brings to our lives. All are warmly invited.

Dear Lord Jesus **Christ**, please help us to be open to your love, joy and healing and to grow in faith as we celebrate your birth this Christmas. Amen.

## Gospel Gallery

**WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH**

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

- JOHN
- PRISON
- SENT
- FOLLOWERS
- CHRIST
- HEALING
- GOOD
- NEWS

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**



Search for at least three differences between this picture and the colour one. Then draw them in before colouring.

Cross out the letters **t u b** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.

huebartd mitrabclues dotinbug Jothunb

While \_\_\_\_\_ the Baptist was in prison, he \_\_\_\_\_ about

Christ's \_\_\_\_\_ and all that he was \_\_\_\_\_.

This weekend we celebrate the third Sunday of Advent and light the pink candle on our advent wreath. The third Sunday is known as Gaudete Sunday. The word 'Gaudete' in Latin means 'Rejoice!'. We rejoice that Christ is coming.

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

