

2nd Sunday of Advent (Year C)



Luke 3:1-6

'All flesh shall see the salvation of God.'

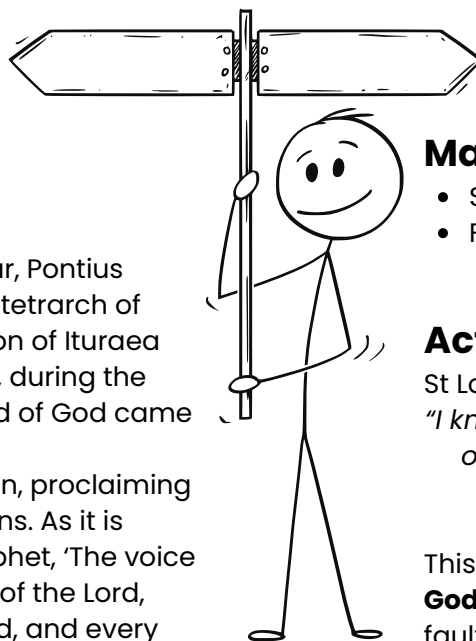
In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."' '

Reflection

Sunday's Gospel tells us about John the Baptist who came to prepare people for Jesus and His message of love. A message which will straighten out our crooked ways of thinking, enabling us to recognise the wrong things we do and take Jesus and His message to our hearts. What things make our path crooked? What gets in the way of Jesus reaching us?

We reflect on what He told us, the example He set for us, all He did for others, His suffering, dying and rising from the dead. Love of God is connected to love of neighbour, so our readiness to encounter and love our neighbour makes us open to God as well. This is one way we can prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.



Materials needed

- Sign posts printed (enough for each participant)
- Felt tip pens

Activity

St Louise de Marillac said

"I know that we all have faults and I more than anyone. However, the support we owe to one another should prevent us from noticing the weaknesses of our sisters, except if we are able to help them."

This week's Gospel invites us to reflect on what might be blocking our **Path to God**, while St. Louise de Marillac's words remind us to acknowledge our own faults, see beyond the faults of others, and offer support. She showed dignity and respect to everyone she served, creating "signposts" of kindness and encouragement through her actions.

- Think about an encouraging quote or verse that uplifts you or serves as a guide in your daily life. This could be a favourite piece of scripture, a saying that brings you hope, or a line from a saint or inspiring person.
- Write your chosen quote on the signpost. Decorate it as you like, to make it meaningful and personal.

Call to Action

- Place your signposts of encouragement throughout the school or parish, in corridors, common areas, and entrances, where they can uplift and inspire everyone who passes by.
- Consider extending this encouragement to other community spaces where people might appreciate seeing these messages; local care home, primary school, or refugee centre.

