



Children's Activity Sheet

The Cathedral Church of St Marie
welcomes

.....
to Mass today.

Preparing The Way

2nd Sunday of Advent. Year C.

Today's Gospel tells us that God sent a man named John the Baptist to prepare the way for the coming of Jesus. The prophet Isaiah foretold this, saying that there would be a single voice calling out in the desert, "Get ready for the Lord who is coming. Make a straight path for him!" .

And so it was that John appeared in the desert, calling people to make amends for their sins, and he baptised as a sign of them turning back to God. You see, John wasn't here to prepare a *real* path that Jesus could walk on, but to prepare the hearts of the people to receive Jesus, so that Jesus could walk among them and live with them.

During this special season of the year, when we celebrate Jesus' birth and look forward to the day when he will come again, you and I need to make sure that we are ready. We need to look into our hearts and ask God to make our crooked ways straight and smooth out the rough places. Oh, I know we've all done this before, but this job is never finished! Every day, we all do things that we shouldn't do, and we all need to ask God to forgive us and to make our hearts clean.

We all need to keep preparing our hearts to receive Jesus!



JOHN THE BAPTIST

Matthew 3:3, Mark 1:3, Luke 3:4

Activities reproduced by kind permission of Sermons4kids, Inc.

Decoder Puzzle

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

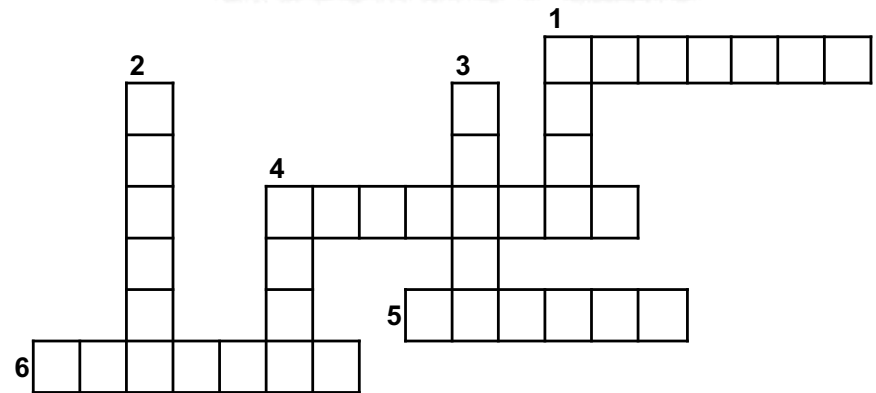
- 22-15-9-3-5 _____
- 4-5-19-5-18-20 _____
- 16-18-5-16-1-18-5 _____
- 3-15-14-6-5-19-19 _____
- 16-1-20-8-19 _____
- 2-1-16-20-9-19-5 _____
- 19-9-14-19 _____
- 19-20-18-1-9-7-8-20 _____

Baptise	Prepare	Voice	Straight	Sins
Paths	Desert	Confess		

Christmas!
Celebrating the birth of
Jesus, and waiting for
his return...



Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- To make ready ahead of time
- Not having any curves or bends
- A dry, barren region with only a few plants
- To admit your sins to God

DOWN

- A trail made for traveling on foot
- The river where John baptised people
- What people use for speaking
- Actions that break God's Law

Voice	Prepare	Sins	Straight
Jordan	Desert	Path	Confess

Children's Prayer

Dear Jesus. Please help us to prepare our hearts for your return. Help us straighten out the crooked bits, and smooth out the rough parts, so that we will be ready for you! Amen.

