Advent: 2nd Sunday in Advent
Sunday December 10, 2023

Lead Story Headline:
On Love

"Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God"
Isaiah 40:1

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Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

“This is the beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Isaiah, the prophet, wrote: ‘I am sending my messenger to prepare the way for you. He will proclaim, ‘Prepare the way for the coming of God! Make a straight path for our God!’ And so, John the Baptizer came, telling everyone to change their lives and be baptized so their sins would be forgiven. Many people around Jerusalem went to the desert to see John. They confessed their sins, and were baptized in the Jordan River. John wore clothes made from the hair of camels, and he wore a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. When he preached, he always said, ‘Someone else is coming after me, He is more powerful than I am. I am not even worthy to undo his sandals. I am baptizing you in water, but he will baptize you in the Holy Spirit.’”

This is the Good News of the Lord.


"I am not even worthy to undo his sandals. I am baptizing you in water, but he will baptize you in the Holy Spirit"

Mark 1:8

What Do You Think?

1. Who do you think John the Baptist is telling the people about?

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2. Why do you think it is important that we are baptized into the Church?

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Now Act:

Share a picture of your work for Advent finger painting seen below or of any of the Advent traditions that your family has already started for this year! Send your pictures to maija.wilson@kings.uwo.ca to share them with others and show us what you have been up to!
Activity: Advent Finger Painting

You will need:
- stamp pads in orange, blue and yellow
- a black pen and colored pencils
- your fingers and thumbs
- lots of white paper
- a wet washcloth

You don’t mind getting your fingers a little messy, do you? Try creating the Nativity scene with your fingers, thumbs and a few simple lines. Use the figures below for ideas, but do some experimenting on your own, too. Besides regular fingerprints, try using the tips and the sides of your fingers.

Make the cow and donkey with a big thumb print and two little pinky side prints.

Clean your fingers with the washcloth when you switch colors!

Food for Thought:

We celebrate Saint Nicholas on December 6th each liturgical year. Saint Nicholas is the patron saint of sailors, merchants, children and others. We can take time to pray to St. Nicholas to help us in this busy Christmas season to not miss the miracle of the coming of Jesus in these days of preparation as well as on the feast itself. St. Nicholas can help us not to be blind to the gifts of getting ready!


"...all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart and a humble mind"
1 Peter 3:8
Second Week of Advent: Love

This week, we light the second candle of the Advent wreath! This second purple candle on the wreath represents LOVE! We remember that Jesus taught us two very important things: to love God with all our heart and all our soul, and to love our neighbour as ourself. During this time, as we prepare for the Lord’s birth, let us be mindful of how to live out this Law of Love. This week, we focus on the journey that Mary and Joseph took to Bethlehem where Jesus was born. When they got there, there was no room in the inn! We should focus this week on making room in our hearts for Jesus! We continue to wait patiently during this week of Advent. How will you show God’s love to those around you? Think of ways you can do this in your home with your family or with friends or even the stranger in the grocery store.


Let's Pray:
God of patience, show us your wisdom in time, that we may grow to expect your action on your time. Teach us to be gentle and patient with ourselves. Help us see the long view when we are caught in the frustration of waiting.

Amen

Archdiocese of Toronto

"Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness and peace will kiss each other"

Psalm 85