

December 7, 2014 – Second Sunday of Advent
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Prepare the Way of the Lord



The Gospel for this Sunday recalls the story of John baptizing the people from the Judean countryside. John had just returned from the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sin.

Imagine the contrast of the desert with the flowing waters of the Jordan River, surrounded by trees and with its cool waters bubbling over small and large stones. On the banks were the multitudes of people who came to hear the words of this man from the desert: “One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs on his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Place yourself in this crowd and ask yourself the following: What in my life needs to be changed? How can I prepare for the One Who is coming? Which relationships in my life need to be changed? Who do I need to forgive? Whom do I need to ask for forgiveness? Will I forgive myself?

This Gospel gives us all a chance to leave the desert and join the throngs of people at the Jordan River, feeling the cleansing, cool waters of God’s unconditional love.