

# Faith on Fire

Family Guide

Week of Nov. 28, 2021

2nd Sunday of Advent  
(Weekly dated December 5, 2021 )

## Opening Prayer



+God our Father,  
Draw us close to the heart of  
your son, Jesus. Help us to be  
prepared to receive him when  
He comes again.

Thank you for...  
We are sorry for. . . and we  
ask for your help with . . .  
In Jesus' name we pray,  
Amen +

## Prepare the Way of the Lord -

Luke 3:1-6

(Overview for Adult Leader)

The Second Sunday of Advent often finds people busy with Christmas preparations but also preoccupied with the material and commercial aspects of Christmas. In this Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist calls us to another kind of preparation: he tells people to turn to God. John announces that someone very powerful is coming--someone we don't want to miss. We need to be ready!

## QUICK CONNECT (10 min)

Begin by each child completing the front cover of *their* Gospel Weekly (3 min)

**Catholic Faith Word:** A great way to start your Scripture time together is to do hangman with the Catholic Faith Word. Choose one word if you have multiple children or if time permits do multiple words!

**NOTE:** Families with **ONLY PROMISE** children, please go [HERE](#) for your Parent Teaching Guide which includes opening story, Gospel. & questions. You may look at this Family Guide for extra resources.

**DO ALL TOGETHER - READ A OPENING STORY & Do the Questions** This is a quick opportunity for everyone to listen to **ONE** story which will prepare them for the Gospel. (If you have students in different levels, pick just one story.) Promise found at **RED** link above.

**Short on time?** Skip the story & pick from the discussion starter questions below to make a quick connection with family members & move on to the Gospel Reading.



**Questions:** Pick 1 or 2 that apply to your child(ren)

- Who are people you listen to in your life?
- Why do you listen to them? Do they have authority? Do you trust them?



## Discover the Gospel TOGETHER - 20 min

*(Overview for Adult Leader)* God promised to send the Messiah, a great king who would bring justice and peace instead of war and destruction. The Jewish people waited for this king who would be faithful to God. During Advent, we remember how long the world waited for Jesus. Thanks to the prophets, Israel understood that it was again out of love that God never stopped saving them and pardoning their unfaithfulness and sins. (Catechism # 218)

**Read the Gospel (find in their Bible) OR read/act out the Gospel Play from ONE of the printed Pflaum Weeklies - Luke 3:1-6**



**TOGETHER** do the Gospel Reflection Questions found in your child's Weekly (in yellow boxes), except Promise & most explained below.

**What did John tell the people in the Gospel?** To get ready for the Messiah.

**How does the world get ready for the coming of God?** Put up decorations, listen to special music, etc.

**How can we get ready for Jesus?** Pray, do acts of service, attend Mass, etc. Accept all answers

**What is the Old Testament?** It is the first part of the Bible. IT tells the story of God's love for his people.

**What does the word 'Bible' mean?** Little books. The Bible is a collection of little books!

**How long did the Jews of the Old Testament wait for the Messiah?** ( about 1850 years!)

**Why do you think this Gospel begins with the names of the leaders of the time?** This sets the scene for people listening in Jesus' time; they would know these people and places well. For us today, it's a history lesson.

**How are the messages that the Old Testament prophets tell different from the one that John the Baptist shares in this Gospel? How are they the same?** Some of the Old Testament prophets warned people to change their ways or there will be retribution/punishment; John the Baptist offers a more hopeful message of salvation. Both messages call people to prepare for the coming of the Messiah. Both encourage people to turn from sin.

**Imagine you are a prophet. What message would you share about Jesus? What if you could only text your prophecy?** Allow for all answers.

**How can the promise of Jesus returning to us help us deal with hard things?** Jesus is constant and always there for us--like a faithful friend or a parent.

**Think of a current news event. How do you think Jesus would lead us in that situation?**

**The prophets' messages were sometimes unpopular, but they said them anyway. How is Jesus a brave leader? How are you brave?**

**What is the relationship of John the Baptist to Jesus?** He is Jesus' cousin, he is also Jesus' precursor, "the voice crying out in the wilderness, "get a road ready for God."

**What is the spirit of John the Baptist's preaching? Isaiah's preaching?** John's is one of repentance & forgiveness. Isaiah tells the people to change their hearts & prepare for God.

**How does John make people ready for Jesus?** John urges people to turn away from sin and be baptized.

**During Mass, how do Catholics remember those people who have come before us and now live with God in Heaven?** On way we remember our beloved dead is during Mass, when we state in the Nicene Creed that we believe in the Communion of Saints

Have each child work on **their** pages in What the Church Believes & Teaches (WCBT)

**Promise** students will do God's Promise to Adam & Eve (p 9)

**Good News** students will do Old Testament, Revelation, salvation (p 54-55)

**Venture** students will do Prayers of Petition & Intercession (p 40-41) &

What is Mary's Immaculate conception? (p 10-11)

**Visions** students will do Believe/Nicene Creed (p 6); Mary's Immaculate Conception (p 11)





## Go Live It!! (10 min)

Take some time to teach your children how to look up Scripture in the Bible!

Luke:3: 1-6: Book of Luke in New Testament, Chapter 3, verses 1-6

Don't forget to be sharing your highs & lows for the day; what you're thankful for AND our newest question: **What are you sorry for today?**



### Closing Prayer:

Use the prayer found in your Gospel Weekly to close your time together. It can be found in the Family Corner (Promise/Good news) or With My Family & Friends section (Venture/Visions).

Show us what you've learned or how you've lived your faith this week !

Together, let's take one step closer to God!

**Find the Assignment Form HERE.  
Due Next Sunday**

### Car Rides Review Questions!

Can you tell me what the Gospel was about?  
Why do you think this story is in the Bible?  
What did we learn from the Gospel?

INTERESTED IN A LITTLE MORE  
ADVENTURE?! CHECK OUT  
THESE ADDITIONAL  
RESOURCES!!



To receive weekly tips from Pflaum Weekly click [here](#)

### Learn about the Eucharist

"Jesus said to them, 'Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you.'" ~John 6:53

In John's Gospel, Chapter 6, Jesus relates to his disciples what is called the Bread of Life Discourse. It is a long chapter in which Jesus tells them that he will give us his flesh to eat. If we don't eat it, he says, we don't have life within us. As Catholics, we may often take the Eucharist for granted, miss Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, and neglect to receive Jesus regularly. In doing this, we deny ourselves the great graces that come from the Eucharist. And grace means "God living in us." Without the Eucharist, we, in a sense, do not have that life of Jesus within us. What a tragedy to miss the greatest gift that Jesus has to offer!

### Saint of the Week - St. Andrew the Apostle

### Thankful song from last Family Gathering

#### Younger Students

- [Bible Bag Story](#)
- [God's Story: John the Baptist \(4 min\)](#)

#### Older Students/Adults

- [Advent in 2 Minutes \(Excellent!\)](#)
- [Liturgical Calendar \(3 min\)](#)

