

# CHÚA NHẬT THỨ 2 MÙA VỌNG NĂM B



## **MEMORY VERSE**

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths!"

Mk 1:3

## **HỌC THUỘC LÒNG**

"Hãy dọn đường Chúa, hãy sửa đường Chúa cho ngay thẳng!"

Mc 1,3

**FIRST READING**  
(Is 40:1-5, 9-11)

**A Reading from the Book of Isaiah:**

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

**The Word of the Lord.**

**BÀI ĐỌC I**  
(Is 40,1-5. 9-11)

**Trích Sách Tiên Tri I-sa-i-a:**

Chúa người phán: Hỡi dân Ta, hãy an tâm, hãy an tâm! Hãy nói với Giê-ru-sa-lem, và kêu gọi rằng: Thời nô lệ đã chấm dứt, tội lỗi đã được ân xá, Chúa đã ban ơn nhiều gấp hai lần tội lỗi.

Và có tiếng kêu trong hoang địa rằng: "Hãy dọn đường Chúa, hãy sửa đường Chúa chúng ta trong hoang địa cho ngay thẳng. Hãy lấp mọi hố sâu và hãy bạt mọi núi đồi; con đường cong queo hãy làm cho ngay thẳng, con đường gồ ghề hãy san cho bằng." Và vinh hiển Chúa sẽ xuất hiện, mọi người sẽ được thấy vinh quang Thiên Chúa, vì Ngài đã phán.

Hỡi người là kẻ đưa tin mừng cho Si-on, hãy trèo lên núi cao. Hỡi người là kẻ đưa tin mừng cho Giê-ru-sa-lem, hãy mạnh dạn cất tiếng. Hãy cất tiếng cao, đừng sợ! Hãy nói cho các dân thành thuộc chi họ Giu-đa rằng: Đây Thiên Chúa các ngươi, đây Chúa là Thiên Chúa các ngươi sẽ đến trong quyền lực; cánh tay Người sẽ thống trị. Người mang theo những phần thưởng chiến thắng và đưa đi trước những chiến lợi phẩm. Người chặn dất đoàn chiên Người như mục tử. Người ẵm chiên con trên cánh tay, ôm ấp chúng vào lòng, và nhẹ tay dẫn dắt những chiên mẹ

**Đó là Lời Chúa.**

**SECOND READING**  
(2 Pt 3:8-14)

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Peter:

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay," but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out.

Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

**The Word of the Lord.**

**BÀI ĐỌC II**  
(2 Pr 3,8-14)

Trích Thư Thứ Hai Của Thánh Phê-rô:

Anh em thân mến, có một điều anh em không thể không biết là một ngày đối với Chúa như ngàn năm, và ngàn năm như một ngày. Không phải Chúa chậm trễ thi hành lời hứa của Người, như có vài người lầm tưởng, nhưng vì anh em, Người hành động nhẫn nại, Người không muốn ai phải hư mất, nhưng muốn mọi người ăn năn sám hối. Ngày của Chúa sẽ đến như kẻ trộm. Trong ngày đó, các tầng trời qua đi trong những tiếng rung chuyển mạnh, ngũ hành đều cháy tiêu tan, trái đất cùng mọi công trình kiến tạo đều bị thiêu hủy.

Vì mọi vật ấy tiêu tan đi, nên anh em càng phải sống thánh thiện và đạo đức biết bao, khi anh em mong chờ và thôi thúc ngày Chúa đến, ngày mà các tầng trời bốc cháy tiêu tan, và ngũ hành bị thiêu rụi. Nhưng theo lời Người hứa, chúng ta mong đợi trời mới đất mới, trong đó công lý sẽ ngự trị.

**Đó là Lời Chúa.**

**GOSPEL**  
**(Mk 1:1-8)**

**The Gospel According to St. Mark:**

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

**The Word of the Lord.**

**PHÚC ÂM**  
**(Mc 1,1-8)**

**Tin Mừng Chúa Giêsu theo Thánh Mác-cô:**

Khởi đầu Phúc Âm của Đức Giêsu Kitô Con Thiên Chúa.

Như có lời Tiên tri I-sa-i-a chép rằng: Đây Ta sai Thiên Thần của Ta đến trước mặt người để dọn đường cho người. Có tiếng kêu trong hoang địa rằng: "Hãy dọn đường Chúa, hãy sửa đường Chúa cho ngay thẳng." Gio-. Tẩy Giả xuất hiện trong hoang địa, rao giảng phép rửa sám hối cầu ơn tha tội. Dân cả miền Giu-đê-a và Giê-ru-sa-lem tuôn đến với người, thú tội và chịu phép rửa trong sông Gio-đan. Lúc đó Gio-an mặc áo lông lạc đà, thắt lưng bằng dây da thú, ăn châu chấu và uống mật ong rừng. Người rao giảng rằng: "Đấng đến sau tôi, quyền năng hơn tôi, tôi không đáng cúi xuống cởi dây giày Người. Phần tôi, tôi lấy nước mà rửa các người, còn Ngài, Ngài sẽ rửa các người trong Chúa Thánh Thần."

**Đó là Lời Chúa.**

**Fill in the BLANK****Điền vào chỗ TR? NG**

1. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "\_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord, make \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_."  
 Có tiếng kêu trong hoang địa rằng: "\_\_\_\_\_ Chúa, hãy sửa \_\_\_\_\_ Chúa cho \_\_\_\_\_."
2. John the Baptist proclaimed: "One \_\_\_\_\_ is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and \_\_\_\_\_ of his sandals."  
 Ông Gioan Tẩy Giả rao giảng rằng: "Đấng đến sau tôi, \_\_\_\_\_, tôi không đáng cúi xuống \_\_\_\_\_ của Người."

**TRUE OR FALSE****ĐÚNG HAY SAI**

3. John the Baptist was clothed in camel's hair, with a brand name belt around his waist.  
 Ông Gioan Tẩy Giả mặc áo lông lạc đà, với một dây thắt lưng hàng hiệu,  
 TRUE  
 FALSE
4. John the Baptist appeared in the desert to call people to repent and change their way of life.  
 Ông Gioan Tẩy Giả xuất hiện trong hoang địa để kêu gọi người ta ăn năn và thay đổi cuộc sống.  
 TRUE  
 FALSE

**UNDERLINE the correct answer(s)****GẠCH DƯỚI câu trả lời đúng:**

5. John the Baptist said: "I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with..."  
 A. Fire  
 B. Salt water  
 C. The Holy Spirit  
 D. All of the above  
 Ông Gioan Tẩy Giả nói: "Phần tôi, tôi lấy nước mà rửa các ngươi, còn Ngài, Ngài sẽ rửa các ngươi trong..."  
 A. Lửa  
 B. Nước muối  
 C. Chúa Thánh Thần  
 D. Tất cả đều đúng

# Word SEARCH



## MEMORY VERSE

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths!"

Mk 1:3

## HỌC THUỘC LÒNG

"Hãy dọn đường Chúa, hãy sửa đường Chúa cho ngay thẳng!"

Mc 1,3

H V O I C E S N R E N E A D H  
I R E S S C S A R S G N V E G  
E R R A N R L G R G G J O R A  
E H M I G H T I E R O M T T M  
N S H A D R S S P G S J O H E  
I U E H R M T A E N P O V O E  
E N I M E S S E N G E R S N N  
E A B A P T I S T N L D S G I  
A Y I E F R R S A N D A L S E  
I T R N G A E N N T E N J W S  
P I S R H I H S C H S N E D P  
R V F O R G I V E N E S S T N  
S S A E R H R H R F R E U B E  
O O W O R T H Y P A T H S A T  
G S C S I G A R W H E A C R S

## KEY WORDS

GOSPEL  
MESSENGER  
STRAIGHT  
REPENTANCE  
MIGHTIER

JESUS  
VOICE  
PATHS  
FORGIVENESS  
WORTHY

ISAIAH  
DESERT  
BAPTIST  
JORDAN  
SANDALS



## REFLECTIONS

### FIRST READING

In the first reading we hear the words of comfort and hope to the people in a time of great sorrow: "Comfort, give comfort to my people..." The author tells the people to look up; the Messiah is coming: "Prepare the way of the Lord!" John the Baptist will use these same words in today's gospel to announce his mission. How will we receive the Messiah, Jesus Christ, who comes in God's name to comfort and speak tenderly to us? What can we do to welcome him into our lives?

**How will we receive the Messiah, Jesus Christ, who comes in God's name to comfort and speak tenderly to us? What can we do to welcome him into our lives?**

Isaiah uses the images of desert and wasteland to describe the highway where God will come to his people. How are our hearts and our world a desert and a wasteland in need of God's coming? What can we do to open our hearts and receive the words of comfort and hope, first spoken in a time of great sorrow? Is it difficult to open our hearts to the comfort and hope Jesus brings? Is there a way to prepare the way for Jesus in our world? There is also an image of God as Shepherd in this reading. How does he care for the lambs?

### SECOND READING

In this reading the author was instructing believers who expected the second coming of Christ to take place right away and were troubled that it was delayed. He reminds them that for God a thousand years is like one day. The task of the Christian is to live a life of patience, generosity, and conversion until God comes at the end of time, this is called "the day of the Lord" in this letter of Peter.

At the heart of Peter's message and its imagery of the world's end is the need for conversion. We wish to make straight and smooth everything in our lives – our selfishness and pride, our impatience and meanness, our laziness and indifference – whatever blocks the way of the Lord.

**What does it mean to live a life of conversion? In what ways can we bring about our own conversion?**

What does it mean to live a life of conversion? In what ways can we bring about our own conversion? We await a "new heaven and a new earth." What did the promise of God say would be two characteristics of this new day? How can we help this new day arrive?



## GOSPEL

In this gospel reading Mark introduces John the Baptist as the messenger of the Messiah, sent by God to prepare his path. John preaches a baptism of repentance and the forgiveness of sins in the desert by the River Jordan. The coming Messiah will baptize with the Holy Spirit. He is mightier than John or any of the prophets before him.

Let us prepare for Jesus' coming as John taught the people to prepare: with repentance for our sins, with welcoming hearts, with unselfish love, and with generosity for one another.

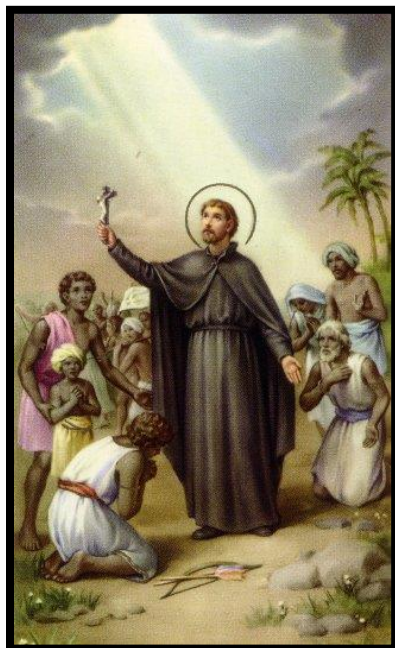
Advent should be a time of watchfulness for us. We must never be asleep to the daily challenge of Jesus in our lives,

Why does Mark's gospel begin with the story of John the Baptist? How does Mark connect John and Jesus to the Hebrew scripture? John has sometimes been called the last Hebrew prophet. Where did he preach and baptize? To whom did his preaching point? Describe John's ministry. What does the last verse of John's gospel mean when it says, "I have baptized you with water; He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit."

**Let us prepare for Jesus' coming as John taught the people to prepare: with repentance for our sins, with welcoming hearts, with unselfish love, and with generosity for one another.**

## St. Francis Xavier

December 4<sup>th</sup>



St. Francis Xavier was born at Xavier Castle in Spain in 1506. He went to the University of Paris when he was eighteen, where he studied and taught Philosophy. Here he met St. Ignatius Loyola, who was about to start the Society of Jesus.

St. Ignatius tried to get Francis to join him, and at first the happy-go-lucky young man just laughed. St. Ignatius repeated to him the words of Jesus in the Gospel: "What does it profit a person to gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" At last, Francis saw clearly that he could use his talents to bring people to God and agreed to join the Jesuits.

When Francis was thirty-four, St. Ignatius sent him as a missionary to the East Indies. The king of Portugal wanted to give him presents to take along and a servant.

Francis refused his kind offer and explained: "The best way to acquire true dignity is to wash one's own clothes and boil one's own pot."

During his travels as a missionary in Goa, India, Japan and other lands of the east, St. Francis made thousands of converts. In fact, he baptized so many people that he became too weak to raise his arms.

Francis' love for Jesus was so strong that he could not rest at the thought of so many people who had never heard the Gospel. He found that there were so many villages where there were Christians but no priest to say Mass or teach them their prayers and the Commandments of God's Law.

When he landed at Goa in India, he would go down the streets ringing a little bell and inviting the children to hear the word of God. Then he would take them to a nearby Church and teach them Catechism and prayers. He made little lay apostles of them and invited them to spread the faith they had learned.

There was nothing St. Francis wouldn't do to help people. Once he faced a fierce band of raiders, alone, with no weapon but his crucifix. They backed up and did not attack his Christian tribes. The saint also brought many bad-living Christians to repentance. His only "tools" were his gentle, polite ways and his prayers.

During his painful journeys and hard work, the saint was full of a special joy that came from God. St. Francis longed to get into China, into which no foreigner was permitted.

At last, the arrangements were made, but he fell ill. He died almost alone in 1552 on an island off the Chinese coast when he was just forty-six-years-old. Today his body is preserved in a church in Goa.