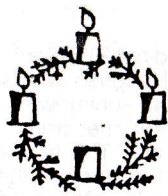


# Third Sunday of Advent



*Church of the Descent of the Holy Spirit.*

**PRAYER - VIGIL for ADVENT:** An Advent Vigil will be held next Sunday, 23rd December at 5.00 p.m. This will be a time of reflection and prayer as Christmas comes very near. (Both Karisma Folk Choir and the Senior Choir will sing.) Make this part of your special preparation to celebrate the birth of Christ.

**Reconciliation Service:** You are reminded of the Service of Reconciliation next Wednesday evening at 8.00 p.m. After a short time of prayer and reflection on God's word, Confessions will be heard by six priests.

Gifts of flowers and donations for flowers to decorate the Altar for Christmas will be greatly appreciated.

Attending Mass during the coming week would be a special way of thanking the Lord for his coming among us.

## Confession Times for the Coming Week:

Wednesday: Reconciliation Service 8.00 p.m.  
Saturday: 12.00 - 1.00; 3.00 - 4.00; 7.00 - 7.30; 8.15 - 9.00

## Sunday Masses:

First Mass of Sunday: Saturday 7.30 p.m.  
Sunday: 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.15 (Folk Mass).  
(Community School 9.30 a.m.)

## Weekday Masses:

Morning: 9.00, 10.00. Evening: 7.30 p.m.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IN THIS CHURCH EVERY SATURDAY EVENING FROM 8.15 TO 8.45 P.M.

*If you need a priest urgently during the coming week, please ring 932906.*

## THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS: PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD



*John appeared as a prophet by the Jordan: the coat of camel's hair and the leather girdle he wore were the traditional garments of the prophets. He announced the beginning of God's kingdom on earth and therefore demanded of the people of Israel that they should repent and turn to God.*

When we come to Jesus in Confession we ask him, as the lepers did, to be made clean and holy and pleasing to our heavenly Father. When the priest raises his hand to give us absolution we kneel there, as the leper knelt before Jesus, knowing that his hand too, is raised over us, and that his almighty power is cleansing and healing us.

After Confession we praise and thank God, for the great things he has done for us.

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,  
who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases.*