

## HOLY CROSS AND ALL SAINTS MONDAY MISSION

### THIS WEEK'S WORD:

**Luke 23:35-43**

'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'

For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

'The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight."

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father", for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

'I baptise you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'



### REFLECT

Advent is a time of transformation. During this season we are reflecting on our lives and getting ready to welcome love into our lives in a new way. Today we hear about John the Baptist who is calling us all to repentance. John wants us to change our way of looking at things, and see ourselves and the world in a different way. God is about to come and live among us in the human form of Jesus, as one of us. How can we change our hearts and be transformed this Advent, so that we are even more loving and ready to welcome him?

There is no better way to find peace than to come to understand how much God loves us. During Advent, we pray that we see ourselves as God sees us, with total love and compassion. And when we experience that love for ourselves, we want to share it with others. By treating the people we meet with respect and speaking kindly to them, we will bring peace to the world. The ripples spreading out from our kindness will begin to change the world, and build the kingdom that John tells us is very near.

### LET US PRAY

Thank you, loving Lord, for the peace your love brings.

I am sorry for any times when I have caused hurt.

May I bring love and peace to others in all I do and say today.

Amen

### MISSION

In this week's Gospel, John the Baptist calls everyone to get ready for Jesus by changing their hearts. Advent is our special time to do the same. God loves each of us deeply, and when we remember that, we want to share His love with those around us. This week, your mission is to prepare the way for Jesus through small acts of kindness and goodness.

Your Mission:

**1. Heart Check:**

Each morning, ask: "How can I be more like Jesus today?"

**2. Be Kind:**

Use gentle words, include others, and help whenever you can. Your kindness spreads peace.

**3. Notice God's Love:**

At the end of the day, think of one moment when you felt loved or cared for, and thank God.