

December 6, 2020
Second Sunday
of Advent (B)



FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:3–5

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

A voice is shouting:

Clear a path in the desert for the Lord.

Build a straight road there for our God.

Fill in the valleys and flatten the mountains and hills.

Level the rough and rugged ground.

Then the glory of the LORD will appear for all to see.

The LORD has promised this!

The word of the Lord.

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RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 85:8–9, 10–11

All: *Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.*

*I will listen to you, LORD God,
because you promise peace
to those who are faithful
and no longer foolish.
You are ready to rescue
everyone who worships you,
so that you will live with us
in all of your glory.*

All: *Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.*

*Love and loyalty will come together;
goodness and peace will unite.
Loyalty will sprout
from the ground;
justice will look down
from the sky above.*

All: *Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.*

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GOSPEL
Mark 1:1–8

The beginning of the holy Gospel according to Mark

This is the good news about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
It began just as God had said in the book written by Isaiah the prophet,

“I am sending my messenger to get the way ready for you.
In the desert someone is shouting,
‘Get the road ready for the Lord!
Make a straight path for him.’”

So John the Baptist showed up in the desert and told everyone,
“Turn back to God and be baptized!
Then your sins will be forgiven.”

From all Judea and from Jerusalem crowds of people went to John.
They told how sorry they were for their sins,
and he baptized them in the Jordan River.

John wore clothes made of camel’s hair.
He had a leather strap around his waist
and ate grasshoppers and wild honey.

John also told the people,
“Someone more powerful is going to come.
And I am not good enough even to stoop down and untie his sandals.
I baptize you with water,
but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit!”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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