

**December 11<sup>th</sup> 2022 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent – Year A – Matthew 11:2 - 11**

<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” <sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ <sup>11</sup>Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

<p>➤ <b>Read and re-read</b> – out loud and slowly the Gospel.</p> <p>➤ <b>Meditate</b> - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life</p>	<p>➤ <b>Pray</b> - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition</p> <p>➤ <b>Action</b> – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do</p>
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In this Sunday’s gospel we read of the meeting between John’s disciples and Jesus and Jesus speaking to John. John heard from his prison what Christ was doing and had a sense that he was the Messiah so he sent his disciples to ask him if he was. “Are you the one who is to come or are we to look for another?” (11:2) Jesus answered “Tell John what you see and hear”. (11:4) Jesus answers with great confidence and belief in God’s love for Him. John is invited to adapt his mind set and heart to the reality of the ministry of Jesus. John had to let the Spirit who guided Jesus transform him to see that the compassionate action and words of Jesus are God’s way of bringing vitality to his people.

What is it that locks you in your prison and prevents you from recognising that the ways of Jesus enable the blind to see, the lame to walk and the deaf to hear? We conquer evil by doing good with His help.

**Prayer:**

**Thank you Lord** for the people who like Jesus invite us to hear and see how the blind see, the lame walk, the deaf hear, lepers are cleansed and good news is proclaimed to the poor when we place our trust and belief in you.

**Forgive us Lord** for the times we let ourselves be imprisoned by our worries and anxieties and all the injustice in the world rather than bearing witness to your life and bringing the good news to the poor.

**Help us Lord** to let people see the great things you are doing among us and not to loose faith in ourselves because you are always with us even when we do not feel it

