Catholic Mom
HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

SUNDAY GOSPEL ACTIVITIES

Family Activity Page

The 3rd Sunday of Advent **John 1:6–8, 19–28**

Last week we heard what Saint Mark the Evangelist (which means one of the Gospel writers) had to say about Saint John the Baptist preparing for Jesus' coming. This week, we hear what Saint John the Evangelist has to say.

Many different people went to hear John the Baptist preach and be baptized by him. The people wondered who he was. John the Baptist knew he wasn't the Messiah. Rather, he told them that he was the one chosen to prepare the way for the Messiah to come.

Sometimes we want to be someone we're not. We might want to seem like we are the best at something, even if we're not. Even if we are the best (after all, John the Baptist certainly was someone special!), we must be truthful. All of our gifts come from God and all of the glory should go to Him. John the Baptist knew how to do this. He knew he wasn't even worthy to untie Jesus' sandal strap. He wasn't even worthy to do the lowliest of tasks for Jesus because Jesus is God. But he also told them that he was the one promised by Isaiah the prophet. Being humble doesn't mean we aren't truthful about who we are. But we must always make sure the glory goes to God. It was God who made John the Baptist His special messenger. It is He Who gives us the gifts that make each one of us special.

Activities:

- Think about a person who you can make smile this week. Bring joy to one another!
- Do you use your gifts to glorify God? The next time someone compliments you, say "to God be the glory!"
- John the Baptist prepared the way for Christ's first coming. How are you preparing to celebrate His birth at Christmas?