



## *Scripture Readings Advent 2 Dec. 6th*

### **First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11**

Comfort, O comfort My people,  
says your God.

Speak to the heart of Jerusalem  
and call out to her,

**for her term of service is ended,  
her crime is expiated,**

**for she has taken from the Lord's hand  
double for all her offenses.**

A voice calls out in the wilderness:

Clear a way for the Lord's road,  
level in the desert a highway for our God!

**Every valley shall be lifted high  
and every mountain brought low,  
and the crooked shall be straight,  
and the ridges become a valley.**

And the Lord's glory shall be revealed,  
and all flesh together see

that the Lord's mouth has spoken.

**A voice calls out, saying: "Call!"**

**And I said, "What shall I call?" –**

**All flesh is grass**

**and all its trust like the flowers of the field.**

Grass dries up, the flower fades,

for the Lord's wind has blown upon it.

The people indeed is grass.

**Grass dries up, the flower fades,**

**but the word of our God stands forever.**

On a high mountain go up,

O herald of Zion.

Raise your voice mightily,

raise it, do not fear.

**Say to the towns of Judah:**

**here is your God.**

**Look, the Master Lord shall come in power,**

**His arm commanding for Him.**

Look, His reward is with Him,

His wages before Him.

**Like a shepherd He minds His flock**

**in His arm He gathers lambs,**

**and in his lap He bears them, leads the ewes.**



## *Scripture Readings Advent 2 Dec. 6th*

### **Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1-8**

The good news of Jesus Christ — the Message! — begins here,  
following to the letter the scroll of the prophet Isaiah.

Watch closely: I'm sending my preacher ahead of you;

He'll make the road smooth for you.

Thunder in the desert!

Prepare for God's arrival!

Make the road smooth and straight!

John the Baptizer appeared in the wild, preaching a baptism of life-change that leads to forgiveness of sins. People thronged to him from Judea and Jerusalem and, as they confessed their sins, were baptized by him in the Jordan River into a changed life. John wore a camel-hair habit, tied at the waist with a leather belt. He ate locusts and wild field honey. As he preached he said, "The real action comes next: The star in this drama, to whom I'm a mere stagehand, will change your life. I'm baptizing you here in the river, turning your old life in for a kingdom life. His baptism—a holy baptism by the Holy Spirit—will change you from the inside out."