

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST TELLS US

"REPENT AND BE SAVED."

Our lord Jesus came **to stage** the greatest drama the world would ever witness. While he was in the wings there was a man out front preparing the people for his entrance. His name was John. He was a big man. He had gusto. And his remark as Jesus was stepping forward to assume his major role on the stage of history was simply, "**Here comes Jesus!**"

Big John became one of the **great preachers** of all time. His **messages rang** with authority. Jesus **recognizing** the work of preparation that this man did, gave him a **tribute** of praise: "Truly I say to you, among those born of women there has **risen** no one greater than **John the Baptist.**"

As we examine his **messages** in scripture, the **first** thing we notice is that his preaching was **very pointed**. **Pious platitudes, worn-out formulas** were not a part of John's preaching bag. Once he **even** called those around him: "**You brood of vipers.**"

The bible never thought of itself as an **expose** of nice, cozy and harmless **table talk book**. Rather, the bible speaks of a sword, **piercing and laying bare** the secrets of the soul. From the bible we get the idea that the preachers of the word are not playing with little wooden swords, but **with sharp, two-edged swords**. Bible words, they hurt and cut; but also they bring comfort. They may hurt; but they will also heal. Big John the Baptist knew that **full well**.

No question about it ... We need **some** big Johns, **some** big preachers in the Church, whose **pointed** preaching sets us straight on the rights and wrongs in God's world. We need the **fearless feats** of a man who dared risk his head in the telling of the truth.

We need priests to preach to us about sin. **Repent and be saved**. Go to church, attend mass; mind your tongue, gossip not; pornography **on the internet** will bring you where you do not want to go; last but not least, God knows your family, the number of children you have. God knows.

Repent and be saved.

Go to confession not because you missed Mass last Sunday but because you **never** go to Mass.

Never going to mass is a mortal sin.

Big problem when you **never** obey the teachings of the church.

Repent, go to confession and be saved.

After big John called for repentance he ushered in the **Good News** of Jesus who takes away the sins of the world.

"Here comes Jesus."

Love him. Listen to him for he is merciful and forgives us all our sins.

REPENT

Saint John the Baptist had hard words for those who **never** obey God's Commandments and Church's teachings.

Priests today are told not to be afraid to preach like John the Baptist.

It is said that people continue coming to Church to hear 'hard' sayings and leave when only 'pious platitudes' are preached.

CCD

Vivian Fay is doing fine with her sickness but ask that we continue praying for her. Last year CCD teachers will meet Monday night and talk about next year's classes.

DIOCESE \$55 MILLION CAMPAIGN

Fr. Gerry met last Tuesday with a diocesan representative and was told that our parish goal is \$81,750. The Campaign will begin this July and end in December.

IMMIGRATION

Our Prayers for the Faithful this week will be for the resolution of our immigration problem. Our country is great and together we can do what is best for it.

SOLAR PANELS

The next meeting of Exeter Council at Metcalf School will be on July 9th at 7:00PM.

4th of JULY

Enjoy next week. Drive carefully and remember to thank the Lord for our great country.

BIBLE SHARING

Monday at 9:00

NEXT WEEK: 6:30 to 7:1

BAKING

Sat. Dianne Drake,

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Sheila Trivisonno

Sun. Joyce Letourneau, Norma Allen

FAMILY INTENTIONS

Sat. Langevin and Hebert

Sun. Kocab, Dyrkacz and Cole

COLLECTION

\$ 719.00 Thank you. Ouch!