

FR.TK.REFLECTIONS 3rd SUNDAY ADVENT YEAR B-2023.

WITNESSING:

In an African setting, John the Baptist put himself in the right place, at the right time to meet people. A good number of people would have been in that place as they come to fetch water different times of the day.

I would imagine that figure of a stranger with unattended, uncombed, shaggy hair, long white beard which has never come into contact with a razor blade, dirty Carmel skin hide strapped on his waist must have portrait a real man from the desert and very scarily. In that condition he must have attracted a multitude of people not only the women and children who had come to fetch water but too others who had heard this stranger, including scholars walking around the river in reflections. His actions was a great threat to the religious circle hence they had great concern to know who this figure was, so they send priests and levites to find out who he is. The logic was that they felt that they were the official authority to announce about the coming of messiah though in their mind they still expected political figure. They could not help to ask the stranger **who are you? Are you Elijah, Moses one of the prophets, or the Christ?** The stranger was neither of those though **he had a qualification aspects of each of them.** Still they persisted hence he declared who he was (A ***witness to the light: I am a voice crying out in the wilderness, prepare the way for the LORD!(Jn.1:23)***).

He was so **honest and humble and he knew who he was he declared he is not the light**, when the proper light came he **stepped aside that the real light might shine.** John knew exactly his role was to **prepare the way, to be a witness** and he fulfilled that role fully with **courage** and without **fear to the extend of giving up his life to die.**

We must be honesty with ourselves, we must know our **capabilities, strengths, weakness, strong points, our emotions** these will help us **realise our dreams let us not be dishonest, demeaning ourselves have pride in ourselves**, this will not bring the joy we are celebrating this

third Sunday of advent. It is only through this that we will be **proper witness of Christ in our time and in our generation like John.**

We have the same **role like John the Baptist to prepare and witness Christ in this world of challenges** whereby people want to keep Christ away from their life. He is among us in so many ways in

Eucharist, scriptures, gathered community, the poor, sufferings and the magnified **are we recognizing him as one standing among those**

situations and not known to us? Do we close our eyes, ears feelings to those who are in need. Are we not called to be like the stranger John to be **the voice in our different deserts of our time and in our society?**

What is going to be our role this Christmas as **witnesses of Christ.** we must be the **light and shine among the dark parts in our world.**

Prophet Isaiah(61:1-2,10-11) is telling us that we are being **send to bring the good news to the poor, bind the broken hearts, to proclaim liberty to the captives and set the prisoners free, release those who are emotionally and psychologically imprisoned. This is now real, proclaiming the year of the Lord,** No doubt we have a heavy duty, we must be **shepherds and physicians in all directions.**

LET US BE PROPER WITNESSES DURING THIS JOYFUL SUNDAY: