

Dear friends in Christ,

This weekend at church we encounter the fearsome figure of John the Baptist. His voice cries out in the wilderness: "Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight." He baptises those who are willing to welcome the Lord into their hearts, and calls for repentance and conversion to a new way of life.

John is a voice in the "wilderness", a lone messenger in a barren wasteland. Are we part of that wilderness, or do we receive his message of repentance and conversion? Do we take up the message, or do we let it fall on deaf ears? John the Baptist delivers this challenge to each of us this weekend.

Thank you for your very warm welcome to the parish of Mentone-Parkdale. We give thanks that we are able to attend church and worship God in significant numbers again. Together let us go to where John the Baptist points us, making the pilgrimage towards the Christ Child this Christmas.

With best wishes and the promise of my prayers,

Fr Cameron Forbes  
Parish Priest