



Our Lady of Peace

Second Week of Advent

Luke 3:1-6 Prepare my people

Hail Mary

- Hail Mary full of Grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are thou **AMONG** women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus. Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death Amen.

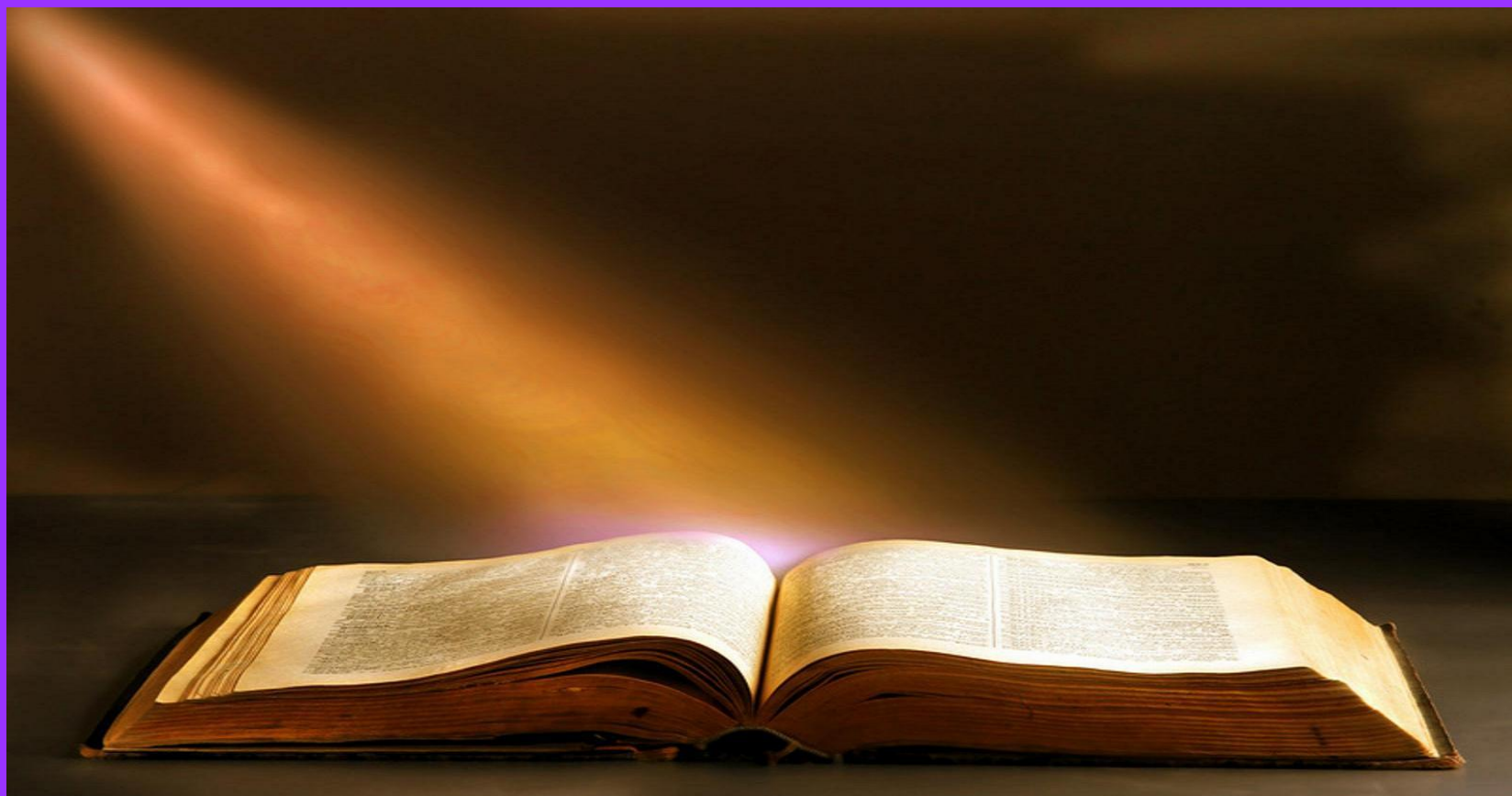
Introduction

The people of Israel had turned away from God and his love. He had promised to send a saviour, but first he sent someone to prepare the people to welcome the Son of God. In the Gospel today we will hear who this person was.

Introduction



Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Acclamation

The star led the 3 wise men so
far, travelling both day and night.

Guided by your light so bright.

Like the shepherds and the kings,
we have come to praise you.

The Lord be with you

Response: And with your spirit

A reading from the Holy Gospel
according to Luke

Response: Glory to you,
O Lord

Gospel

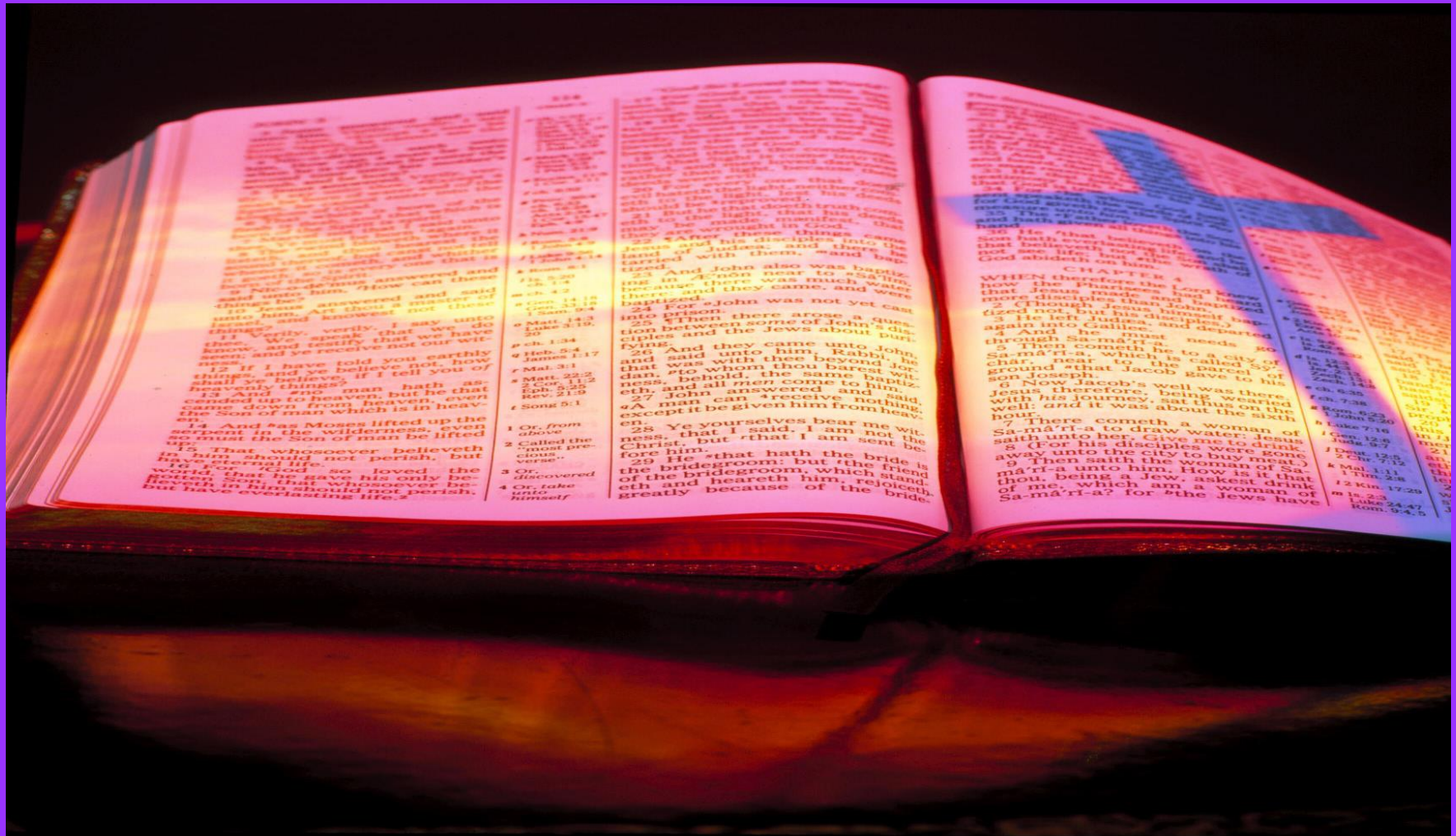


Gospel

When Pontius Pilate was the Roman governor of Judaea, a man appeared in the desert and began to preach the word of God: his name was John. He told people to turn away from their sins and to ask for God's forgiveness. He baptised the people who were truly sorry and wanted to make a fresh start in their lives and he came to be known as 'John the Baptist'

The Gospel of the Lord

Response; Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



Reflection 1



Reflection 1

John was specially chosen by God. John's parents were called Zacchariah and Elizabeth. Elizabeth was Mary's cousin.

Zacchariah and Elizabeth were married for many years and had no children. They were good people who lived according to God's rules. Zacchariah worked as a priest in the Temple and it was while he was there that the angel Gabriel appeared to him and said, 'Do not be afraid! You and Elizabeth will have a son and you will call him John. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit and he will be remembered for his greatness.'

Reflection 2



Reflection 2

John wanted the people to turn back to God and ask for his forgiveness. Then they could make a fresh start and try to lead better lives. Water is used in many ways, but importantly it keeps us alive and makes us clean. John baptised all the people who were truly sorry as a sign that they wanted to wash away all their sins and so begin a new life with a fresh start.

Reflection 3

God sent John to prepare the people for the coming of his son Jesus. He was filled with the Holy Spirit and had the courage to stand before the crowds and the Jewish priests and preach to them. He came to turn them away from sin and to change their hearts so that they were ready to listen to the words of Jesus when he came.

Prayer Advent Wreath

Hope (Purple)
Faith (Purple)
Joy (Pink)
Peace (Purple)
Purity-Birth of Jesus (White)



Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus

Help us to be like John the Baptist, filled with your spirit and brave enough to say and do what is right.

Give us the courage to choose the right way, despite what others might say or think, because we believe in you and love you with all our hearts.

Amen

With Christ in our hearts, together we grow.