

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

Sunday, June 24, 2018

Reading 1 Is 49: 1-6

In the first reading we learn of God's ever presence in our lives. He makes us and binds us and gives us all we need. We are all his agents and are revealed as such upon the winds of God's time, not our own. This is unbeknown to us and is revealed in time and in God's way.

In times of hardship we must remember our always focused job of helping others along the way and helping with the salvation of the world through God.

Reading 2 Acts 13: 22-26

In the second reading Paul states that "God raised up David as king" and of him God testified that David will, through his descendants, bring Israel a savior; Jesus and his coming will be heralded by John after John prepares the ways for his entry into his ministry by preaching the baptism of penance to all people.

Here again we see the same theme of God's agents being revealed and part of his plan for our salvation

Gospel Lk 1:57-66, 80

In the Gospel reading we see Elizabeth break with tradition and demand her child be named John and not Zacharias like his father. This is significant in that it says the child will be different and will not follow in the footsteps of Zacharias as was the norm in society at the time.

We see Zacharias also write the name of John upon a tablet. Lk 1:62 suggests Zacharias may be deaf which explains people's efforts to communicate via signs. By Zacharias writing the name John we see God communicating through Zacharias in that moment.

We see again God revealing his presence in people's lives and his showing them that they are his agents, spreading his word through them. John then becomes the savior's herald and through John God paves the way of his ministry. Not to the healthy but the sick. Not to the righteous but the sinners.

In my own life and through my experiences God has shown me grace and love and beauty. He has blessed me in so many ways that were not known to me. I may not be able to walk but he has blessed me. With my beautiful wife, with my beautiful life. And so I answer his call, as his child and as his servant.

Jeremy Morgan