

Advent/Christmas 2020

GOD HAS VISITED HIS PEOPLE.

Booklet for family prayer



**LET US EMBRACE
LIFE!**

Diocesi di Bergamo



IN WAITING
AND IN STRUGGLE,
THE VOICE OF THE LORD
GIVES  TESTIMONY
IN WHICH WE SHOULD  TRUST.
LIFE BECOMES  JOYFUL
IN OUR ENCOUNTER WITH OTHERS,
 WITH THE SAVIOUR.

The proposed prayer itinerary is meant to be a daily and shared journey with all family members.

SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS

On **Sundays and holidays**, the sharing will take place around a table, listening to the gospel of the day and a reflection given by Paolo Curtaz (theologian and one searching for God, as he often describes himself) and concluding with a piece of prayer for the blessing of the meal.

ORDINARY DAYS

On **ordinary days** we will be accompanied, day by day, with a small verse from the Sunday gospel, commented by Don Luca Della Giovanna (biblical scholar of our diocese), and invited to end the moment with a word of invocation and praise. The desire is also to make **protagonist** even the **youngest child at home** to become researchers of the gospel, “small exegists”. Allow them to play with the text, creating an atmosphere of curiosity and complexity in the research, using colours and signs to enter the world of the gospel.

ART & TESTIMONY

Week after week, we will also come across the **art** of Alfonso Modonesi, photographer of Bergamo, and will be stimulated by the **testimony** of some laity, with whom we wish to translate the gospel in images and narratives of the life to which we have been called to embrace.

CHARITABLE TASK

The **charitable task**, in the end, will be entrusted to each parish community, both in the identification and mode of execution, recognizing the importance of territorial designs which welcomes and respond to life when and where it happens.



**My dear sisters and brothers,
from the youngest to the aged,**

I accompany you with this diocesan proposal for Advent 2020 moved with feelings of gratitude for all those who have worked for the achievement of ways offered full of hope, so that this work, inspired by faith and pastoral passion, could be welcomed and become food and support for a significant and meaningful preparation for Christmas. We are all aware that the celebration of Christmas is strongly marked with what we have experienced during this year and which we are still experiencing. We are dealing with a trial not only from the health point of view: I am thinking of the families, the sick, the aged, affections torn apart with the death of many loved ones; I am thinking of the efforts, sometimes dramatic, from the

view point of work, sustainable economy and social life.

I am aware of how the educational proposals, beginning with the school, are strongly conditioned by the brutality and persistence of the pandemic.

The life of the Christian community in all its aspects has also been marked and redesigned with an experience that we are sharing.

If the sad and worrisome events could instantly appear before our eyes, we would not want to allow ourselves to be blinded only with these: so many generous people, so much devotion, so much solidarity, so much compassion and so much faith that was manifested during these months. We have insistently repe-

ated that we do not want to waste this treasure. Fortunately, here is a preparation for Christmas, that collects the good things we have seen growing during this year and made them become the reason of cure, attention, and growth. It is exactly the uncertainty conditions, difficulty, suffering, and sometimes fear, that brings about the sharing of an intense faith experience, illumined by the gospel and a common witness (shared testimony).

The theme of this year's guide, with many different paths, is "God has visited his people: ... let us embrace life". The celebration of Christmas is capable of opening the heart to accept life with all its manifestations, particularly in those whom we recognize as very fragile and neglected. The Gospel of the Lord, prayer, the care for the suggested feelings in the daily life of our families and communities and the paths of preparation could open the heart, so that it may welcome the life of those whom we overlook.

We Celebrate Christmas not only to remember a past event or only to renew a loved tradition: let us embrace, with faith, the marvelous work of God who became man and asks us today to recognize him in every human being. He became our brother, so that we might recognize ourselves as "brothers all". Serving life where life is found, becomes then an acceptance of life, when this happens. This is our commitment; it is our hope.

Have a nice Advent
+Francesco
Vescovo di Bergamo



From the Gospel of Luke (Lk 7:11-17)

*Soon afterward he journeyed to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. A large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, he was moved with pity for her and said to her, "Do not weep." He stepped forward and touched the coffin; at this the bearers halted, and he said, "Young man, I tell you, arise!" The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, exclaiming, "A great prophet has arisen in our midst," and **"God has visited his people."** This report about him spread through the whole of Judea and in all the surrounding region.*

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LET US WELCOME
LIFE!

Serve life where life is found,
become therefore
a welcomer of life,
when this happens.
This is our commitment
It is our hope.

Bishop Francis

*Museo
delle storie
di Bergamo,
Archivio
fotografico
Sestini,
Fondo
Alfonso
Modonesi*



*Alfonso Modonesi,
Gaetano Azzolina,
cardiochirurgo.
Bergamo, 1969*

A sickness that threatens the life of a child, made known by a diffused sensibility like a subversion of the natural logic of things, lamented like the source of great sorrow for the family, is one of the most touching and alarming signs of human weakness; even Jesus was touch by it. The grief of parents who are directly affected is sharp with anxiety, with a sense of loneliness and helplessness.

In the image, a strong visual valence and symbol has a white pillow that holds a child awaiting an operation, the pillow that has just been marked by the weight of his small head on which the doctor places his protective and encouraging hands that ruffles his hair with familiarity. With his presence in the room, his gesture, his look, with a colloquial attitude the doctor does not only intend to start a relation with the little patient who is a bit surprise, but also to alert the father of his closeness and compassion. The father, with his arms hanged loosely by his side, sat on the bed as close as possible to his child to his head is turned. The doctor, whom with a great figurative respect to another person, opens a sort of arch in which the child is, seems to symbolically assume a new engagement and more broad paternity and proposes a possibility of a rebirth of the sick.



FIRST WEEK

Let us embrace life!

WHEN LIFE IS EXPECTED.

Museo delle storie
di Bergamo,
Archivio fotografico
Sestini,
Fondo Alfonso Modonesi

**Alfonso Modonesi,
Gaetano Azzolina,
cardiochirurgo.
Bergamo, 1969**

The time of waiting: abysmal space between the experts and the unknown, helpless suspension between hope and fear, between the usual security and restless signs. But the emptiness in the wake of the flow of life, which in some way, ordinarily, we believe we are the actors, takes shape from that which we are individually, by the paths we have accomplished, in a sense that it has formed our existence. In this regard our different attitudes are emblematic with the two painted personnel, cardiologist and a sister in the passage of the hospital, near an open room in which we guess the presence of a little patient discharged earlier from the operation room. The black image of the religious bordered with sharpness in the backlight, his look without uncertainty directed beyond the door, the hands interlocked in the practical posture of prayer express confident and calm acceptance of the outcome of waiting. The posture of the doctor from a sense of precariousness: near the room looks for support on the door jamb and does not completely rests his foot on the floor; maybe the cigarette is used to ease of the tension of the decisive operation for the life of the child with whom he has professionally and humanly involved, while the hand stretched around the chin and a pensive look and without a direction could revealed a critical reflection of the one operated, perplexed and restless. It is as if, like his patient, he finds himself on the threshold: in the midst of a positive outcome of the cure and a possible check of an indeterminate dangerous data.

A man wearing a white cap and a white apron over a light-colored shirt stands in a doorway. He is looking to the left with a thoughtful expression, his hand near his chin. The background is a plain wall and door frame.

Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Mark (Mk 13:33-37)

At that time, Jesus said to his disciples: “Pay attention, stay awake, because you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. Stay awake, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Stay awake!’”

SUNDAY
29TH
NOVEMBER

To deepen the passage of the Gospel,
scan the QR code and follow the video
commentary of Paolo Curtaz (in Italian)

<https://youtu.be/S-L5uH64JrU>

Blessing of the meal

*In the centre, put a **lighted candle**, symbol of the Lord in our midst.*

Standing, we observe some silence.

Parent:

Lord,

Bless our meal and our family.

Teach us to share what we are and what we have
and to entrust to you our waiting
so that it may fill us with joy, together with hope
and sustained by our trust in you!

Amen.

If there are children, the parents trace the sign of the cross on their forehead.

*We conclude with the new version of the **Lord's prayer**.*

The candle remains lit throughout the meal.

TESTIMONY

The Gospel invites us to be alert, in an active and not resigned way, not like one who awaits things to happen without doing anything. In waiting, we are to be proactive, called to a special task, without being left alone. For Daniele, to be alert is to arise.

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Watch
the video
(in Italian):



Sign of the cross
From the Gospel of Mark (Mk 13:33)

Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.

To reflect ...

Life is always a surprise! It seems as if it occurs where we least expect ... Instead, Jesus, asks us to be attentive to his coming. At all times life needs one to recognize it by knowing how to read between the lines. To act in a way not to bear it passively, but it may be for you, an opportune moment to give meaning to it. This means “to pay attention”: do not wait for life to become useless.

To pray
together ...

Praise to you, Lord,
for the gift of life!
Help us to live our life
with responsibility
and in fullness.

Our Father

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Mettiamo sul tavolo alcuni **oggetti che dicano l'attesa** (orologio, lampada...): tutti quelli che troviamo.

Dopo aver letto il versetto, chiediamo ai nostri figli come si collegano al Vangelo. Poi con un **pastello viola**, facciamo **cerchiare nel testo le parole** che dicono l'attesa.





Sign of the cross

From the gospel according to Mark (Mk 13:34)

It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.

To reflect ...

There is no greater experience of waiting more than waiting the return of someone we love. Great is the emptiness that it creates in us, great is that sense of anxiety and trepidation that explodes in our conscience. Life is waiting for someone who is able to fill it. Jesus is the one who has left leaving in us the traces of finding him in the course of life.

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Usiamo il **colore azzurro** e facciamo sottolineare, a forma di serpente, tutti i **verbi**. Sono verbi che **dicono la fiducia** del padrone nei confronti dei servi. Dio ha così fiducia dell'uomo da mandare suo Figlio.

To pray
together ...



Praise to you, Lord,
for the people
you place around us.
Help us to be always welcoming
and capable of wishing what is
good for them.

Our Father

TUESDAY
1ST
DECEMBER

Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Mark (Mk 13:34)

It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.

To reflect ...

The life of each one might be idle or full of awaiting. Jesus does not want our hands in hand, he asks us to preserve in the course of time the traces of his presence in us. The image of “gate keeper” indicates a sense of nearness and the capacity to stay awake. To be at the door of existence means to keep alive a glance between what is inside and that which is outside, continuously.

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Mettiamo sul tavolo **una chiave**, facciamo cercare ed evidenziare in **verde** le parole: potere, compito e portiere. Spieghiamo ai più piccoli il legame con la chiave: **potere**, nessuno può entrare nel cuore se non ha la chiave giusta; **compito**, la chiave è segno di responsabilità, nessuno può aprire il cuore al nostro posto, neanche Dio, e **portiere** come colui che possiede la chiave (hai un dono prezioso!).

To pray together ...

Praise to you, Lord,
for the opportunities
you give to us!
Give us the grace
not to waste time
and attentive eyes to the traces
of your presence.

Our Father



Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Mark (13: 35-36)

Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.

To reflect ...

Too much mathematical calculation in life has a risk of making it arid and sad. Many events occur without us calculating them; they occur for a good reason or for a bad reason. The faith in Jesus educates us not to depend on “the goddess of fortune” but to constantly nourish the meaning of the unexpected. Jesus is always the unexpected in waiting, he is the one who permits us to read between the lines the last meaning of life.

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Usiamo il **colore nero** per far sottolineare le parole **quando** e **all'improvviso**. Facciamo cercare tutte le indicazioni di tempo di questo versetto per spiegare che la parola **vegliare**, attendere non è un tempo imprecisato, un'indicazione generica, ma è **oggi**, adesso.

To pray
together ...

Praise to you, Lord,
for the unexpected
the surprise us!
Give us the strength
to know him
as a possibility
and not as an obstacle,
even though outside
our usual plans.

Our Father

THURSDAY
3RD
DECEMBER

Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Mark (Mk 13:35-36)

Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.

To reflect ...

It is possible to experience Jesus at any time: in the evening or midnight, at the crow of the cock or in the morning ... that is, at any moment. Our time is not his time, Isaiah once said. We should do everything possible not to be found sleeping in life, not to allow obscurity to darken the true reason of existence, that is, meeting with the loving God.

To pray
together ...

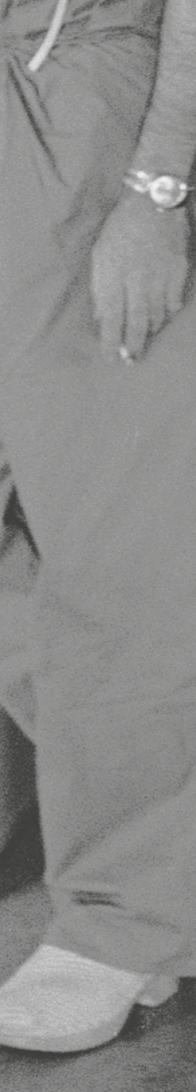
Praise to you, Lord,
for the gift of the day!
May it be filled
with light every moment
so that we may know a
new encounter with you.

Our Father

FRIDAY
4TH
DECEMBER

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

La parola-chiave da cerciare con il **colore rosso** è “**addormentati**”. Quando ci hanno trovato addormentati? Quali sono i pericoli di chi è addormentato nella vita?



Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Mark (Mk 13:37)

What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'

To reflect ...

For Jesus “to stay awake” is not only an advice but is also the foundation of experience in life. To be stay awake means “to give in the dark”, to distinguish in the course of events in life what is good and what which is bad. The anxiety of tomorrow should leave us in a position of discernment of a conscience that welcomes, guides, reorganizes and hopes. Christ is coming, without “if” and without “but”, where we allow him to enter.

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Con un **pastello viola**, facciamo cerchiare la parola **vegliate**. Chiediamo a ciascuno di **scrivere una preghiera** e di metterla in una busta. Le raccoglieremo ogni sabato e **alla vigilia della nascita di Gesù, le leggeremo** come fossero biglietti di auguri.

To pray
together ...



Praise to you, Lord,
For the faith
that helps to stay awake!
Help us to allow you
to enter in our life
Without “if”
and without “but”.

Our Father

SATURDAY
5TH
DECEMBER



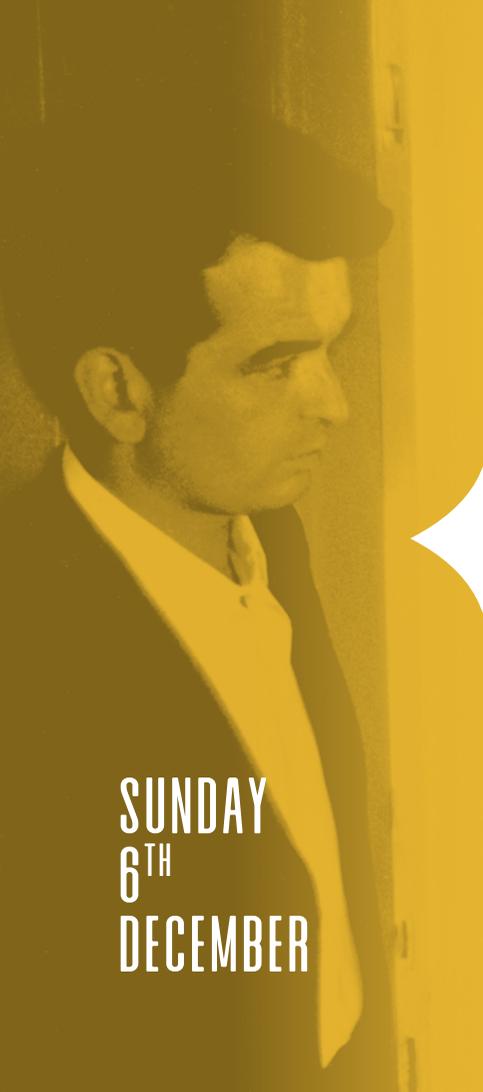
Embrace life!

WHEN LIFE IS TRIAL.

*Museo delle storie
di Bergamo,
Archivio fotografico
Sestini,
Fondo Alfonso Modonesi*

*Alfonso Modonesi,
Gaetano Azzolina,
cardiochirurgo.
Bergamo, 1969*

If we should ask a parent what her greatest fear is, almost certainly his response would have to do with the children. With something that might happen to his children. On the life that he has generated and would like to avoid any sort of suffering. Fears, frustrations, afflictions show on the face of the father who observes from the doorway his sick son in the hospital bed. And, much is clear from the face of the parent, much is fading and blurring the appearance of the child. Almost an act of modesty on the part of the photographer towards the suffering of the innocent. Yet, even in very difficult times, in a very dry desert, a voice that announces the coming of the powerful Messiah is raised. A promised given to all, even to the ears that has become deaf with fear, to eyes darkened by the sense of defeat, to hearts that lingers on the threshold, scared by the announcement that does not fit in with the idea that we are made of life, of justice, of God. Because, it is not easy to recognize the strength of a disarmed God who is dressed in human form. Crossing the desert, opening the way, to make a test that will educate the looks to recognize the strength of the long-awaited Messiah, omnipotent in loving an open heart, who has decided to share all the ups and downs, even the most tragic, of his creatures.



Sign of the cross

From the Gospel of Mark (Mk 1:1 8)

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ (the Son of God).

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: “Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.’”

John (the) Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

John was clothed in camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: “One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the holy Spirit.”

SUNDAY
6TH
DECEMBER

To deepen the passage of the Gospel,
scan the QR code and follow the video
commentary of Paolo Curtaz (in Italian)

<https://youtu.be/WFFUO6DUCkg>

Blessing of the meal ...

*At the centre, we put a **lighted candle**, symbol of the Lord in our midst.*

Standing, we observe a moment of silence.

Parents:

Lord,

Bless our meal and our family

May the sharing we are having

Sustain us in the struggles of life

On our part, may it give us the courage to be,

Of support to our brothers.

Amen.

If there are children the parents trace the sign of the cross on their forehead.

*We conclude with the new version of the **Lord's prayer**.*

The candle remains lit throughout the meal. La candela rimane accesa per tutto il pasto.

TESTIMONY

The gospel invites us to put start a journey, to convert our heart and make space for mercy and love. John the Baptist announces in the desert, in trial, making himself humble. For Albert, the trial was sickness, the sign of love was a human care capable of saying God.

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Watch
the video
(in Italian):



MONDAY
7TH
DECEMBER

Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Mark (Mk 1:1)

Beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Son of God.

To reflect ...

Everything has a beginning. And often, the beginning precedes us. Jesus the son has always been in the thought of the Father, before the creation of the world. Yet, it is not enough. For God the time has come to be a God with us to the end, the God of history, a God that is made into history. To the son is entrusted his story of man, in flesh and bone, to become, among men, the story of God.

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Facciamo cerchiare con il **viola** la Parola **inizio**. Cosa sta per iniziare? Avviamo un'indagine sui termini, provando a domandarci cosa significano le parole: **Vangelo** (buona notizia, è la notizia più sconvolgente che si possa ascoltare), **Gesù** (colui che salva) e **Cristo** (unto, consacrato). In modo simpatico, si potrebbe dire che Gesù è il "salvagente" che il Padre lancia per salvarci.

To pray together ...

In the struggles of life
Be with us O Lord!
We entrust to you,
God who became history,
Our good and difficult stories,
Joyful and sad.

Our Father





Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Mark (Mk 1:2-3)

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.'"

To reflect ...

Many appointments in life asks for preparation. For a good reason, the encounter with God of life demands an authentic journey, a continuous training of one's freedom as children. And that "earthly", image of our existence, is not always ready to be planted: the necessity of care, of prayer, of good will. The word is that which could move our rocky ground.

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Usiamo il colore **azzurro** e facciamo sottolineare, a forma di serpente, tutti i **verbi**. In modo particolare, soffermiamoci su due: **preparare** e **raddrizzare**. Sono i due allenamenti, le due prove dell'Avvento.

To pray
together ...



During the struggles of life,
train us Lord,
so that, like Mary,
we should allow ourselves
to be moved by the Gospel,
and welcome it in our life.

Our Father

TUESDAY
8TH
DECEMBER

Immacolata
Concezione

Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Mark (Mk 1:4)

John (the) Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

To reflect ...

John is a prophetic sign of hope, a demonstration of a dissuasive strength of God. Each of us is in need of conversion to discover the heartbeat of life. The giving of self to the truth permits God to exercise his ineffable love. It means “to be bathed” from the water of salvation and to open the heart to the inexhaustible source of his mercy.

To pray
together ...

In the trials of life,
support us Lord!
May the desire for your pardon
open our heart to your mercy.

Our Father

WEDNESDAY
9TH
DECEMBER

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Con il pastello **nero**, facciamo sottolineare le parole: **conversione** e **perdono**. Si collegano ai due verbi di ieri, sono **due concretizzazioni dell'allenamento**, delle prove. Possiamo riscriverle in grande staccandole: CON – VERSIONE, PER – DONO. Così divise sono più facili da capire.



Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Mark (Mk 1:5)

People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

To reflect ...

God calls me but together with other brothers and sisters. The personal journey of faith is more effective when it “us”. No one should believe to be alone when facing life, even when it puts us to a hard trial. The charismatic strength of brotherhood opens us to the struggles of our journey, step by step with whom God has willed, mysteriously, to put around us.

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Con il **giallo**, evidenziamo le parole **tutta** e **tutti**. Il nostro cammino di **Avvento**, così come la fede, non è un cammino che si fa da soli. È un **cammino insieme agli altri**, dentro la comunità. Proviamo a **dare un nome** a questi “tutti” che camminano con noi.

To pray
together ...



In the struggles of life,
educate us Lord!
May our journey
of faith and life
be shared with the community
and with our brothers
whom you place near us.

Our Father

THURSDAY
10TH
DECEMBER

Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Mark (Mk 1:6-7)

John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals."

To reflect ...

To be converted means to take off the luxurious and conventional clothes. Cloth, in the bible, indicates above all, the identity of the soul, not a difference in fashion or social rank. John from being a priest in the temple goes into silence of the desert making himself humble and searching, in a radical way, the truth of God. We too, like him, are called to go down into the depth of our existence

To pray
together ...

During the struggles of life,
Prepare us Lord!
May prayer, good will
and listening to the Gospel
Be a nourishment
for our journey.

Our Father

FRIDAY
11TH
DECEMBER

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Usiamo il **viola** e facciamo cerchiare tutte le parole che descrivono **Giovanni**. Cosa significano i suoi vestiti, la cintura, la sua alimentazione? Perché Giovanni si veste e si comporta in questo modo? Sono i vestiti del Profeta, di colui che non mette in mostra se stesso, ma si fa voce di un Altro più forte.





Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Mark (Mk 1:8)

I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the holy Spirit.”

To reflect ...

To believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God, means to welcome a “strength” that come from outside, different from the fruit of our inconclusive researches. The Spirit of God, not of man! And, as such, is an immense and free gift which come from the heart of the Father. The life of all is marked with water (biological primordial element); the meaning of life is, rather, our courageous response in the Spirit of Jesus.

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Facciamo con il **rosso** un **bel cuore** sulla parola **Spirito Santo**. È Lui il motore della nostra preghiera. Facciamo un'**invocazione personale allo Spirito**, scrivendola su un foglietto. Mettiamolo nella stessa busta usata la scorsa settimana, per leggerla alla Vigilia di Natale.

To pray
together ...



In the trials of life,
Give us courage Lord!
In the certainty of your coming,
May we put our trust in the gift
of the Holy Spirit.

Our Father

SATURDAY
12TH
DECEMBER



We welcome life!

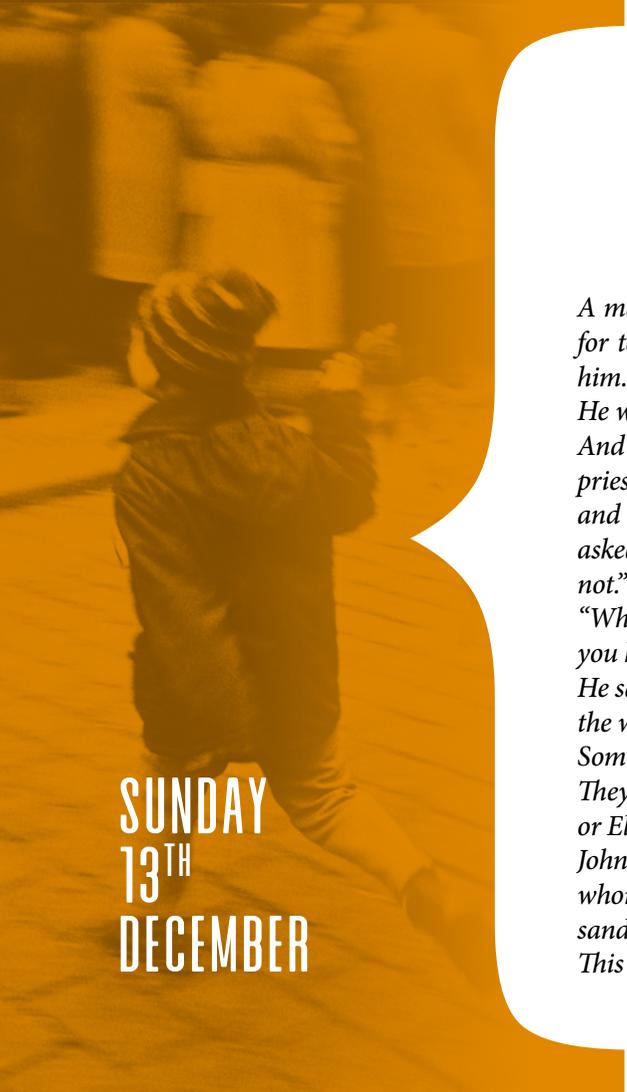
WHEN LIFE IS TESTIMONY.

Museo delle storie
di Bergamo,
Archivio fotografico
Sestini,
Fondo Alfonso Modonesi

**Alfonso Modonesi,
L'autunno di Praga.
Praga, 1968.**



Two contrasting ways of being, compared between an indistinct mass of people who within the limit of the reassuring sidewalk seem to proceed compactly towards a goal that we do not see, and which perhaps is unknown or indifferent to itself, and the free and light run of a child who, alone, diagonally cuts the open space of the street. Playfully, the little one shakes a paper ribbon that, following its dynamism, breaks up in the air as if it were a sign of his playful transgression. In differentiating himself from the opaque conformity of the many, the child symbolically glimpses a possibility of novelty with respect to an ordinariness, accepted out of fear or laziness and autonomy in rethinking authentically personal and free responses to guide a conscious and original path of life. Maybe someone will pick up on that call.



Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to John (Gv 1,6-8.19-28)

A man named John was sent from God: his name was John. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.

And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites (to him) to ask him, "Who are you?" he admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Messiah." So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?"

He said: "I am 'the voice of one crying out in the desert, "Make straight the way of the Lord,"" as Isaiah the prophet said."

Some Pharisees were also sent.

They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Messiah or Elijah or the Prophet?"

John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."

This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

SUNDAY
13TH
DECEMBER

To deepen the passage of the Gospel,
scan the QR code and follow the video
commentary of Paolo Curtaz (in Italian)

<https://youtu.be/B-3TNjc0gJU>

Blessing of the table

*At the center, we place the **candle**, symbol of the Lord among us.*

Standing, we pause for silence.

Parent:

Lord

bless our table and our family.

Make that our staying together around at the same table,
in the beauty of sharing

becomes a courageous testimony
in our each day.

Amen.

If there are children, parents make the sign of the cross on the forehead of their sons.

*We conclude with the **Our Father** prayer, in its new version.
The candle remains lighted throughout the meal.*

TESTIMONY

John the Baptist is sent as a witness, he is called to announce to others. He is questioned: he is the voice of truth, not the truth, and he asks us to believe in order to be, in turn, witnesses.

For Philip, witness is a charity that is not discouraged, that does not hide, that smells of the Gospel.

Watch
the video
(in Italian):



Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to John (Gv 1,6-8)

*A man named John was sent from God.
He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.
He was not the light,
but came to testify to the light.*

To reflect...

Being “sent” by someone means becoming a concrete sign of a message. You are not the message, but the message needs you to arrive! John the Baptist responds to God’s call by making his life, his faith, his originality available. Thanks to him, the light of the Word is even more luminous and capable of leaving an indelible trace in people’s hearts.

To pray
together ...

We thank you, Lord,
for those who like,
John the Baptist,
your light testifies to us,
for when we live the faith,
with courage and authenticity.

Our Father

MONDAY
14TH
DECEMBER

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Oggi facciamo vivere ai nostri ragazzi una **staffetta**. **Costruiamo**, con la carta di giornale o con un legno, un bastoncino che nell’atletica si chiama “**testimone**”. Con Giovanni, è iniziata una gara, il testimone è passato a Gesù, poi ai discepoli e adesso a te. Con il **giallo**, evidenzia tutte le **parole di invio**, mandato, del testo.



Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to John (Gv 1,19-20)

And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites (to him) to ask him, “Who are you?” he admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, “I am not the Messiah.”

To reflect...

Point-blank questions can be really challenging: either you choose to tell the truth or you find a way to mask it. John could take advantage of his fortune but, in the name of Truth, he takes a step back and stays true to his mandate. To the question “Who are you?” both the identity of Jesus and the identity of John emerge as a true man and authentic witness.

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Cerchiamo con il **viola** la domanda «**Tu chi sei?**».

Prendiamo una **maglietta** (è quella dell'atleta della staffetta) e scriviamo, **su un lato, una qualità** che abbiamo. Appendiamo la maglietta ad un filo perché servirà ancora nei prossimi giorni.

To pray
together ...



We thank you, Lord,
for those who always
choose the truth,
for when we are faithful
to our vocation.

Our Father

Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to John (Gv 1,21)

So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No."

To reflect...

Being credible witnesses means affirming the truth and also saying what one is not. Being associated with a famous person can flatter but it must not distract from the truth of oneself: everyone is original in his being! Giovanni clears the truth of possible misunderstandings and easy illusions. Each witness is himself when he does not "dirty" the truth and allows it to come totally to light.

To pray together ...

We thank you, Lord, for those who testify the Word of the Lord with courage, for when we do not allow ourselves to be intimidated by difficulties.

Our Father

WEDNESDAY
16TH
DECEMBER

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Con il **nero**, sottolineiamo le parole: **Elia** e **profeta**. Facciamo una piccola ricerca per conoscere chi è Elia.

Sulla **maglietta**, scriviamo una **qualità** che ci piace **del profeta Elia**.





Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to John (Gv 1,22-23)

*So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?"
He said: "I am 'the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as Isaiah the prophet said."*

To reflect...

John does not define himself as "all", because he is aware that he is only the "voice" of truth: a clear and "crying" voice in the desert of consciences. The truth of Christ demands clarity and determination. This is why the witness must not be duped by futile gossip and remain - ambiguous - in the shadows. The truth is capable of gushing out of any shadow of doubt.

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Usiamo il **colore azzurro** e sottolineiamo, a forma di serpente, tutti i **verbi**.
In particolare, proviamo a spiegarci l'un l'altro le espressioni: "**Voce di uno che grida**" e "**Rendete diritta la via del Signore**". Chiediamo di mettere sulla maglietta un proposito, un'azione sulla loro giornata per essere testimoni della luce.

To pray
together ...



We thank you, Lord,
for those who do not indulge
in useless chatter,
for when we are not afraid
to announce you as the truth.

Our Father

THURSDAY
17TH
DECEMBER

Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to John (Gv 1,24-25)

Some Pharisees were also sent.

They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Messiah or Elijah or the Prophet?"

To reflect...

Our prejudices and our spiritual incapacities do not allow us to read the signs of God in the midst of our history. Deciding to "let oneself be baptized" is a gesture of great trust and total trust. It means accepting that our path of rebirth is in relation to someone else, it is not an end in itself. God comes to us through the testimony of others: before being witnesses we are first of all begotten children.

To pray together ...

We thank you, Lord,
for those who allow you
to reach our life,
for when we seek only the truth.

Our Father

FRIDAY
18TH
DECEMBER

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Con il **verde**, evidenziamo il verbo "**battezz**i". Facciamo scrivere sulla **maglietta** la **data del battesimo** e, su un foglietto, una **preghiera di impegno fino a Natale** da mettere nella busta.





Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to John (Gv 1,26-28)

John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."

This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

To reflect...

"Beyond Bethany" is the place of John's baptism. To be baptized you have to "get out" of your home, your certainties, your comforts. It is necessary to look at life from another point of view, precisely, "beyond" ourselves. We must go out to return renewed, we must go out to purify the heart and rediscover the strength of life. We must go out so that our "I" becomes a "you".

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Usiamo il colore **viola** e cerchiamo le parole, "**in mezzo a voi**" e con il **rosso**: "**Uno che voi non conoscete**". L'**Avvento è scoprire che Gesù è già in mezzo a noi** e, allo stesso tempo, che il pericolo più grande è non accorgercene. Da che cosa sappiamo che Gesù è in mezzo a noi e che cosa ci distrae che quasi non lo riconosciamo?

To pray
together ...



We thank you, Lord,
for those who are always ready
to take the first step,
for when we are willing,
for the Gospel,
to leave our safety
and our comforts.

Our Father

SATURDAY
19TH
DECEMBER



We welcome life!

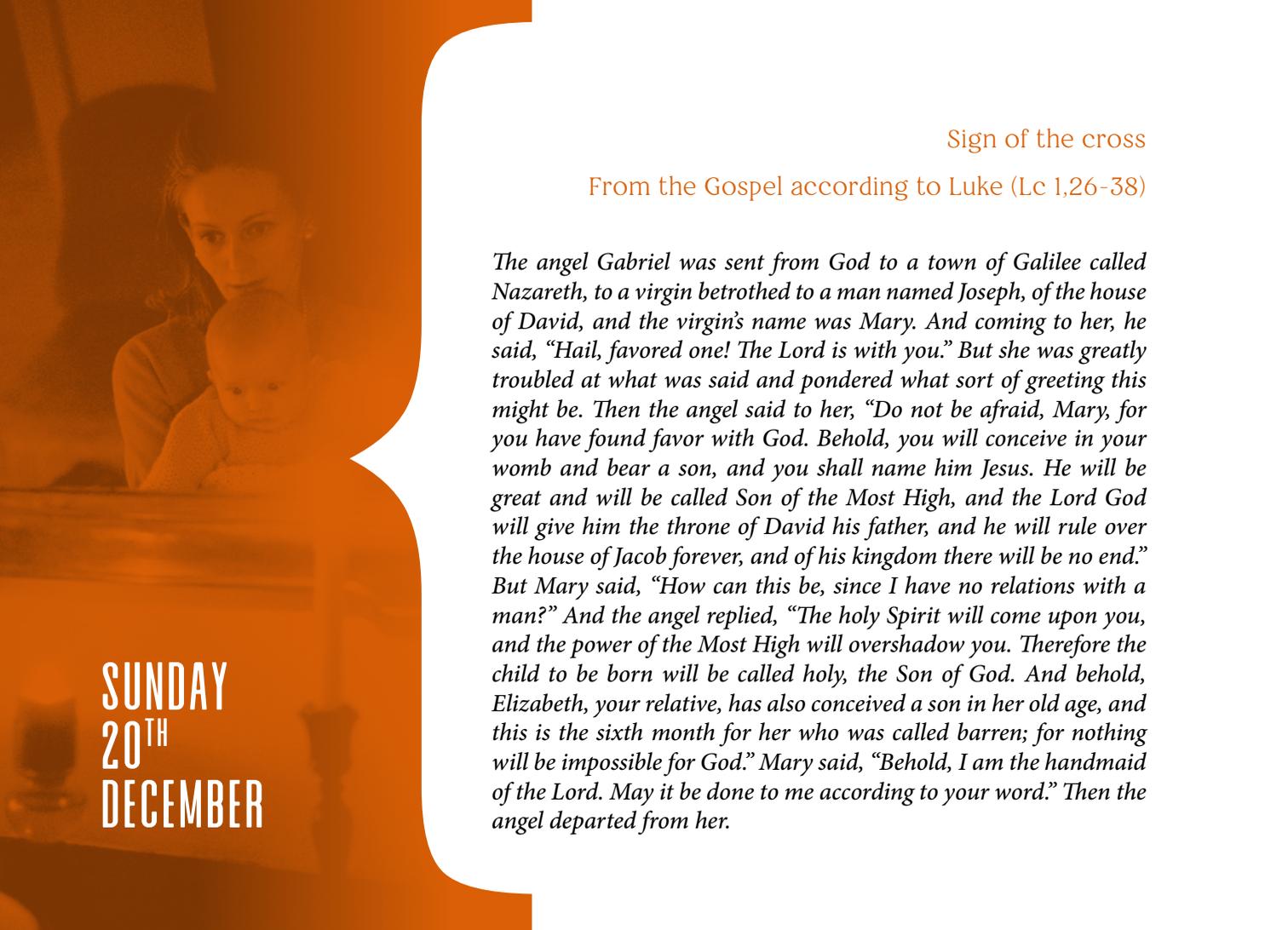
WHEN LIFE IS TRUST.

Museo delle storie
di Bergamo,
Archivio fotografico
Sestini,
Fondo Alfonso Modonesi

Alfonso Modonesi,
Condizione coniugale.
Bergamo, 1967.



As it appears in the reflection of the mirror, the intent gaze of the mother is turned towards an area of suffused brightness around her baby, who is sitting on her lap so as to turn her back to her but such as to present her fully visible, at the same time close and detached. The reflected image duplicates for the mother the satisfaction of the tender exclusive intimacy with her baby but together it seems to reveal an identity other than herself: the child is so surprising now, lovable for her innate grace, precious for her weakness to protect, but somehow mysterious in its depth and unpredictable in its becoming. The life of a child, while welcomed with emotion and gratitude, in an unforeseeable future perspective of situations and events will ask the parent the commitment to be understood in its uniqueness, supported with a trusting disposition, accompanied with attention and respect.



Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Luke (Lc 1,26-38)

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel replied, "The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

SUNDAY
20TH
DECEMBER

To deepen the passage of the Gospel,
scan the QR code and follow the video
commentary of Paolo Curtaz (in Italian)

<https://youtu.be/aCdcrO3Ai34>

Blessing of the table

*in the middle, we put the **candle**, symbol of the lord among us.*

Standing, we create silence.

Parent:

Lord bless our table and our family. The food that we share gives strength and certainty in our journey, in our encounter with You and with our brothers. We ask Mary the gift to know how to trust and entrust, certain that your promises will never come less.

Amen.

If there are children, parents make the sign of the cross on the forehead of their sons.

*We conclude with the **Our Father** prayer, in its new version. The candle remains lighted throughout the meal.*

TESTIMONY

In the Gospel, we meet Mary and we witness her free and courageous yes, which allows God to become man. But let's not forget God's total entrustment to Mary, to her availability and responsibility. When it comes to God, entrustment is mutual.

For Luisa and Andrea, entrustment means responding every day with love and faith to their being parents.

Watch
the video
(in Italian):



Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Luke (Lc 1,26-28)

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you."

To reflect...

Even before Mary entrusts herself to the angel, it is God who trusts her: "Rejoice, full of Grace!" This is the first "good news" that consecrates the Father's desire to truly be God-with-us. In other words, God was the first to declare his "falling in love" with humanity which finds its singular and promising face in the slender figure of the virgin of Nazareth.

MONDAY
21ST
DECEMBER

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Spegniamo le luci di casa e creiamo un clima di preghiera, accendendo solo una **candela**. Maria è la donna che ascolta e per ascoltare, c'è bisogno di fare silenzio! Facciamo cerchiare in **viola** le **parole dell'angelo**. L'Avvento è **essere nella gioia**. Si prega non per avere cose, ma per avere Gesù vicino.

To pray together ...

Lord, may the joy of
your expectation
fill our days.
We entrust these last
steps towards Christmas
to you and Mary
so that you fill them
with grace and serenity.

Our Father





Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Luke (Lc 1,29-30)

She was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.

To reflect...

Mary feels courted by God who, on tiptoe, tries to reassure her and remove her from all fear. Amazed and frightened, Mary senses the great challenge of God in the history of salvation and, humbly, feels inadequate. How can God ask so much of such a simple and seemingly unprepared person? And, however, Mary is only at the beginning of her adventure with him ...

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Usiamo il colore **azzurro** e facciamo sottolineare, a forma di serpente, tutti i **verbi**. Mettiamo a confronto le **paure di Maria** (molto turbata...) con le **parole dell'angelo** (non temere). Nella Bibbia, per 365 volte, è ripetuto l'**invito a non temere**, è il 'buongiorno' di Dio. Quello che il Signore chiede è che la paura non ci condizioni la vita, non sia il pastore delle nostre vite, non sia lei a decidere scelte e strade. **Quali paure ci bloccano?**

To pray
together ...



Lord, may the joy
of your waiting make us
feel loved.

Like Mary,
we welcome your love
that bursts into our life,
filling it with blessing.

Our Father

TUESDAY
22ND
DECEMBER

Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Luke (Lc 1,34-35)

Mary said, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel replied, "The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.

To reflect...

The Holy Spirit enters the scene, the powerful presence of God in creation and in every creature, loved by him. Not an outrage to freedom but a delicate and light encounter - like a shadow - that shapes Mary's womb with a singular blessing. She recognizes it frankly: no mortal man can be equal to the God of Life. The Son of God will come into the world.

To pray
together ...

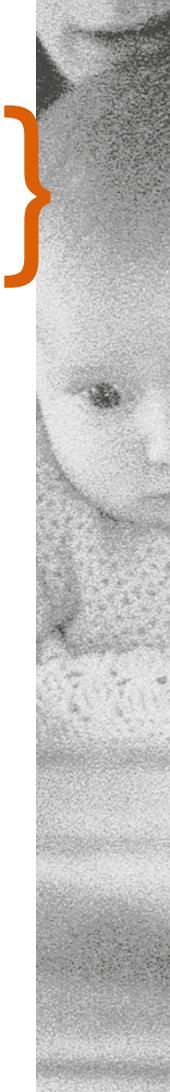
Lord, the joy of your waiting
help us to recognize you
in the baby Jesus.
Like Mary, we offer our life
so that it becomes
a womb that guards Jesus.

Our Father

WEDNESDAY
23RD
DECEMBER

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

Facciamo con il **rosso** un **bel cuore** sulla parola **Spirito Santo**. Lo Spirito ci fa sintonizzare, ci mette "on-line" con Gesù. Scriviamo una **preghiera di affidamento** da mettere nella busta. Evidenziamo con il **giallo** la parola **nascerà...** Natale è alle porte!



Sign of the cross
From the Gospel according to Luke (Lc 1,36-38)

“And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God.” Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.”

To reflect...

Nothing is as powerful as the Word made fruitful by the Spirit. Mary freely and courageously entrusts herself to the will of God: it is the greatest gesture of faith, the only one that makes the difference. God knows how to make too much sterility of the heart fruitful and powerful every time, taken by many fears, we let his Spirit renew us in the depths. Mary enters the story of God as a protagonist because she has totally entrusted herself: she will be the mother of Jesus!

Per condividere con i più piccoli...

È il momento di **aprire la busta** e di **leggere tutte le preghiere** dell'Avvento. Possiamo distribuirle, dividendole in modo che ognuno abbia la preghiera di un altro. Accendiamo una candela, mettiamo in sottofondo un canto natalizio. Con il pastello **viola**, cerchiamo la parola: **parola...** il verbo si fa carne. **Gesù è la Parola definitiva del Padre:** con Lui, Dio ha detto e fatto tutto.

To pray
together ...

Lord, may the joy of your
expectation make us fruitful.
Like Mary, we put our life
at the service
of God's plan of love
for every man
and for the whole world.

Our Father

THURSDAY
24TH
DECEMBER



NATIVITY OF THE LORD

We welcome life!

WHEN
LIFE IS
JOY.

Museo delle storie
di Bergamo,
Archivio fotografico
Sestini,
Fondo Alfonso Modonesi

Alfonso Modonesi,
Condizione coniugale.
Bergamo, 1967.



This is your parents' room, warm with their presence. There is also an important sign of their history, which is yours too. And now you are here too and I feel so full of life, so filled with joy that I feel like dancing. It is not enough for me to kiss and fondle you, I want you to participate with all your little body in the joy you give me: we dance together, the harmony of the music envelops us and penetrates us, together we follow its rhythm, our hugs correspond to each other. It will not always be like this but I want to keep the echo of this moment of bliss, I want to keep myself open to recognizing joy and announcing it.



Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Luke (Lc 2,1-14)

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

FRIDAY
25TH
DECEMBER

To deepen the passage of the Gospel,
scan the QR code and follow the video
commentary of Paolo Curtaz (in Italian)

<https://youtu.be/JCwyHI6nRwo>

Blessing of the table

*at the center, we place the **lighted candle**, a symbol of the
Lord in our midst.*

By standing, we create silence.

Parent:

Lord,
bless our family
and all the families gathered around the table
to experience the feast of your birth.
Give all men joy
which comes from the breaking of bread together.
Amen.

*If there are children, the parents make the sign of the cross on
the children's foreheads.*

*We conclude with the **Our Father** prayer, in its new version.
The candle remains lighted throughout the meal.*

TESTIMONY

“Behold, I announce to you
a great joy”: the Son of God,
the Savior, was born. It is the
voice of an angel delivered
to shepherds who watch over
the flock. It is the feeling of a
mother seeing her baby’s face.
It is the amazement of man who
meets the face of God in a child.
For Mariangela, joy is becoming
a mother, even in such an
unexpected way.

Watch
the video
(in Italian):





EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

We welcome life

WHEN LIFE IS A MEETING.

Museo delle storie
di Bergamo,
Archivio fotografico
Sestini,
Fondo Alfonso Modonesi

Alfonso Modonesi,
Venerdì santo.
Osimo, 1981.

It's a good Friday. In churches it is a day of silence and adoration of the cross. A woman approaches a large crucifix and delicately caresses the face of Jesus. It seems that she is arranging his hair, arranging it neatly behind his ear. A gesture of devotion, care and affection, as if the Crucifix were a person of the house. Around the world goes on. There is an Easter to celebrate, a church to adorn, a tablecloth to hang out. Someone observes with little transport this gesture of such clear evangelical echo, which makes the memory run on Easter morning when courageous women went to the tomb to honor the body of the Master with perfumed myrrh. Just like the one given by the Magi of the East to the child of Bethlehem. Gold to reverence his royalty, incense to worship his divinity and myrrh to honor his humanity destined for sacrifice, pain and death. The child wrapped in swaddling clothes and placed in a manger is the epiphany of the love of a crucified God for man. Incarnation and Easter are the two inseparable key points of faith in Jesus, the Son of God, incarnate and redeemer. They are the two cornerstones of salvation, through which man is offered a space of encounter with a Word that saves.



Sign of the cross

From the Gospel according to Matthew (Mt 2,1-12)

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: ‘And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.’” Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star’s appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage.” After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

WEDNESDAY
6TH
JANUARY

To deepen the passage of the Gospel,
scan the QR code and follow the video
commentary of Paolo Curtaz (in Italian)

<https://youtu.be/edM-e1TdP0M>

Blessing of the table

*In the center, we place the **lighted candle**, a symbol of the
Lord in our midst.*

By standing, we create silence.

Parent:

Lord,
bless our table and our family.
Give us capable eyes and heart
to recognize the wonders
what you do in us and in our brothers,
in the most diverse and unthinkable ways.
Amen.

*If there are children, the parents make a sign of the cross on
the children's foreheads.*

*We conclude with the **Our Father** prayer, in its new version.
The candle remains lit throughout the meal.*

TESTIMONY

“They came from the East to
Jerusalem”, at the rising of a
star, a recognizable sign by
every man capable of looking up
and welcoming the unexpected.
God becomes man for all men.
The Magi recognize Him in that
child.

For Blaise, the encounter is a
gaze capable of looking beyond
appearances and a home, a land
that makes room for the other,
without fear.

Watch
the video
(in Italian):



} SPECIAL } THANKS TO...

PAOLO CURTAZ

*for video-comments
on the festive Gospels*

He is theologian and writer. His research combines meditation on the Word with the sharing of life with the thousands of people, believers and non-believers, whom he meets every year during conferences, pilgrimages, online activities (paolocurtaz.it) and social media, webinars (passaparola.org).

He has published over fifty books, translated into six languages. It is considered one of the spiritual voices capable of intercepting today's questions of meaning. Among his latest publications, we find *Pecore. The book that all parish priests should give to their parishioners* (San Paolo, 2020) and *Pastors. The book that all parishioners should give to their parish priests* (San Paolo, 2020).

ALFONSO MODONESI

per le fotografie

Internationally renowned photographer, he began his career in the early 1960s, after meeting Pepi Merisio and Carlo Leidi at the Bergamo Fotoclub. In 1964 and 1965 he won the first prize for photo reportage in Fermo. As a freelancer he works for "L'Europeo" and collaborates with the Black Star America agency.

He participates in world photography exhibitions in 1968, 1970, 1972, 1976. His most relevant and internationally known reportages concern the autumn of Prague, made together with Carlo Leidi in 1968, the activity of the heart surgeon Gaetano Azzolina on the so-called "blue children", the cloistered life of the Sisters of Santa Grata in Bergamo, the opening of the season at the Teatro alla Scala in 1968.

He publishes numerous books, collaborating with Rizzoli Press, Touring Club Italiano, as an editorial consultant for Banca Popolare di Bergamo, Ancona and Macerata. Among his publications for the local area, the volume *Bergamo. A city and its charm* (1977).

SI RINGRAZIANO:

DON LUCA DELLA GIOVANNA
per i commenti ai Vangeli feriali

DON ANDREA SARTORI
per le proposte ai i più piccoli

MARIA ELENA NOTARI NARDARI e
GIOVANNI BERERA
per i commenti alle fotografie

IL MUSEO DELLE STORIE DI BERGAMO
per la concessione delle immagini

DANIELE ASSOLARI

ALBERTO DAMINELLI

FILIPPO MAFFEIS

LUISA ZINELLI E
ANDREA BUTTARELLI

MARIANGELA CUTER

BLAISE NAOUSSI
per le testimonianze

IMMAGINE DI COPERTINA: *Alfonso Modonesi. Suonatore di clarinetto. Parigi, 2008*

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ACCOGLIAMO, CON FEDE,
LA MERAVIGLIA DI DIO CHE DIVENTA UOMO
E CHE OGGI CI PROVOCA A RICONOSCERLO
IN OGNI PERSONA UMANA.

+Francesco

