

# Readings: Nativity of Saint JOHN, the Baptist Solemnity

First Reading: [Is 49:1-6](#)

Hear me, O coastlands,

listen, O distant peoples.  
The LORD called me from birth,  
from my mother's womb he gave me my name.  
He made of me a sharp-edged sword  
and concealed me in the shadow of his arm.  
He made me a polished arrow,  
in his quiver he hid me.  
You are my servant, he said to me,

Israel, through whom I show my glory.

Though I thought I had toiled in vain,  
and for nothing, uselessly, spent my strength,  
yet my reward is with the LORD,  
my recompense is with my God.  
For now the LORD has spoken  
who formed me as his servant from the womb,  
that Jacob may be brought back to him  
and Israel gathered to him;  
and I am made glorious in the sight of the LORD,  
and my God is now my strength!  
It is too little, he says, for you to be my servant,  
to raise up the tribes of Jacob,  
and restore the survivors of Israel;  
I will make you a light to the nations,

that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

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Responsorial Psalm: [Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15](#)

**R./ I praise you, for I am wonderfully made.**

O LORD, you have probed me, you know me:  
you know when I sit and when I stand;  
you understand my thoughts from afar.  
My journeys and my rest you scrutinize,  
with all my ways you are familiar.

**R./ I praise you, for I am wonderfully made.**

Truly you have formed my inmost being;  
you knit me in my mother's womb.  
I give you thanks that I am fearfully, wonderfully made;  
wonderful are your works.

**R./ I praise you, for I am wonderfully made.**

My soul also you knew full well,  
nor was my frame unknown to you  
When I was made in secret,  
when I was fashioned in the depths of the earth.

**R./ I praise you, for I am wonderfully made.**

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Second Reading: [Acts 13:22-26](#)

In those days, Paul said:

"God raised up David as king;  
of him God testified,  
I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after my own heart;  
he will carry out my every wish.  
From this man's descendants God, according to his promise,

has brought to Israel a savior, Jesus.  
John heralded his coming by proclaiming a baptism of repentance  
to all the people of Israel;  
and as John was completing his course, he would say,  
'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he.  
Behold, one is coming after me;

I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.'

'My brothers, sons of the family of Abraham,  
and those others among you who are God-fearing,

to us this word of salvation has been sent.'

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**Gospel Reading: Lk 1:57-66, 80**

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not give what is holy to the dogs, or throw your pearls to the pigs: they might trample on them and even turn on you and tear you to pieces.

"So, do to others whatever you would that others do to you: there you have the Law and the Prophets.

"Enter through the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many go that way. How narrow is the gate that leads to life and how rough the road; few there are who find it."

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