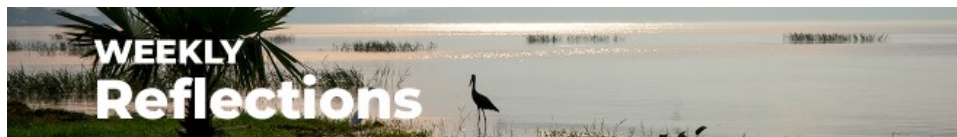


[Our Work](#)[Donate](#)[Get involved](#)

Based on the gospel for 12 December, Third Sunday of Advent: Luke 3:10-18

"If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same."

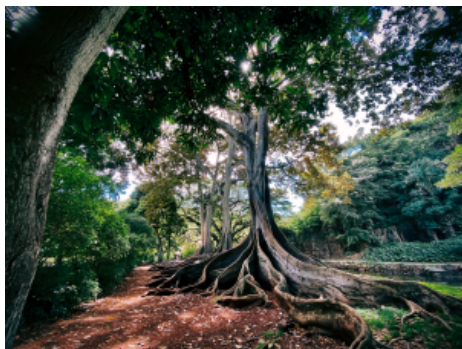
John the Baptist places a demanding expectation before the people of his day. His words are direct, clear and explicit: share what you have, be honest, do not oppress people.

Bissajit lives in Bangladesh with his mother Nomita and sister Sonia. The family live season-to-season, always in fear of losing their home and crops to the cyclones, storms and floods so common in their area. Yet Bissajit lives just the kind of life of open-handed generosity that John the Baptist speaks of today. As his sister Sonia says:

"If he earns one taka and he hears about someone else who need one taka, he'll give it away. He puts other people first. One winter my mother bought him a t-shirt to protect him from the cold weather. The very next day he came across a boy who was trembling in the cold without enough clothes. So my brother took off the t-shirt and gave it to the boy."

This coming Sunday is Gaudete Sunday (Latin for 'rejoice'). As we dwell on the words of John the Baptist and the example of Bissajit, we are reminded of the joy that is offered to us in living out the gospel, in the concrete actions of sharing and loving that bring new life to the world and to us.

Gracious God,
we thank you for your gifts.
Teach us to trust you
more than possessions or wealth.
Give us generous hearts,
inspire us to share what we have
and work for justice,
so that all people may flourish
and live in dignity.
Amen.



Advent calendar

Read a reflection on today's readings from our Advent calendar, and pray that God's word may take root in our hearts.

Reflection for 10
December



Advent Appeal

Give to our Advent Appeal and help someone like Nomita adapt to the effects of the climate crisis.

[Donate now](#)



World Gifts

Share God's gifts of hope and joy with your loved ones and with our sisters and brothers in poverty.

[Buy World Gifts](#)

This reflection and prayer were taken from our [Advent calendar](#).



This CAFOD email includes weekly reflections on a gospel passage. To ensure your email newsletter reaches you every time, add news@email.cafod.org.uk to your address book or contacts list. We protect your privacy and don't share personal data with third parties. [Read our privacy notice](#).

The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD) is the official aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales and part of Caritas International. Charity no 1160384 and company no 09387398. © CAFOD 2021 If you don't wish to hear from us any more, we're sorry to see you go, but you can [unsubscribe](#)

Catholic Agency for Overseas Development
Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road,
London,
SE1 7JB,