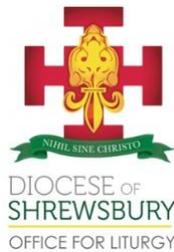


Blessed be her glorious assumption  
Blessed be the name of Mary, virgin and mother  
Blessed be Saint Joseph, her spouse most chaste  
Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints



## A Visit to the Blessed Sacrament



Third Sunday of Advent  
Reflection Resource



DIOCESE OF  
SHREWSBURY

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**Stillness:** As we approach the Lord in the Tabernacle we make the Sign of the Cross.

**Preparation:** we open our hearts to the Lord and make a prayer of preparation.

*O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption. Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

**Invocation:** Make an Act of Spiritual Communion.

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.*

**Read:** Meditate on the Gospel of John 1:6-8,19-28

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he

said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.' Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

**Intercession:** We place before the Lord the desires of our hearts. Pray for the Holy Father, for Bishop Mark and the clergy of our diocese, for vocations to the priesthood, for those who are sick, for your own personal needs, and for those who have died.

**Thanksgiving:** In thanksgiving we pray the Divine Praises.

Blessed be God

Blessed be his holy name

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man

Blessed be the name of Jesus

Blessed by his most Sacred Heart

Blessed be his most Precious Blood

Blessed be Jesus in the most holy Sacrament of the altar

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy

Blessed be her holy and immaculate conception