

Advent w2 B

When the word prepare appears before me

in print or conversation

I think of two people.

My Mother and Oscar Wilde

Good old Oscar said

“The best spontaneous things are well prepared”

“The best spontaneous things are well prepared”

My mother said on a regular basis to the child I was.

“If you only got things ready the night before, there would not be this stupid rush before going to school”

To which I generally replied

“Where’s me shirt”

Basically all true elements of faith are common sense

But few are more obvious than St John the Baptists cry to prepare a way for the Lord

We attempt to be prepared

The shops will soon be open

There will be something of a rush to fulfil felt obligations

But those who prepare

Do not need to make such a panicked fuss

They have thought about the ones they love

And purchased the perfect tie

So kindly meant

We attempt to be prepared

That way the money does not run out

That way the family taxi can pick up all the kids

That way the food eaten is not simply, canned or frozen

That way there is always a fresh vest, socks and hanky

That way life can function in the dignity

To which Christ calls us

Am I being too flippant

Should I mention making a will no matter what age you are

Should I mention the need to express your affection now and not just in retrospect

Should I mention spending time in silent prayer

Time spent in untangling the dilemmas and decisions

Should I mention Death

No not really

If being prepared becomes a habit

Bourne out of quiet reflection

There will be no need

Learn

Learn

Learn

To be prepared.

It is never too late to start

By the way

Where's me shirt