This Sunday is traditionally called “Gaudete” Sunday. The word “Gaudete” means, “To Rejoice,” and aptly so; this weekend is a testament to the joy of the coming of Jesus. The first two readings and responsorial all point to this, as they repeatedly proclaim, “I Rejoice Heartily in the Lord” (Is 61:10), “My spirit rejoices in God my savior” (Lk 1:46B), “Rejoice always” (1 Thess 5:16). This joy is brought to fulfillment in the words and actions of John the Baptist in the Gospel of John. In the Gospel, John responds to that Joy, saying, “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” (Jn 1:28). John’s testimony to Jesus in the Gospel remains an excellent example of how we can live our faiths in our ministry; without receiving attention for our deeds, but joyfully deflecting it to Jesus.