

Readings for 21st February Lent 1

Genesis 9:8-17

⁸ Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him, saying, ⁹ "Now behold, I Myself am establishing My covenant with you, and with your ¹⁰ descendants after you; and with every living creature that is with you: the birds, the livestock, and every animal of the earth with you; of all that comes out of the ark, every animal of the earth. ¹¹ I establish My covenant with you; and all flesh shall never again be eliminated by the waters of a flood, nor shall there again be a flood to destroy the earth." ¹² God said, "This is the sign of the covenant which I am making between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for ¹³ all future generations; I have set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall ¹⁴ serve as a sign of a covenant between Me and the earth. It shall come about, when I make a cloud appear over the earth, that the rainbow will be seen in the cloud, ¹⁵ and I will remember My covenant, which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and never again shall the water become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶ When the rainbow is in the cloud, then I will look at it, to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." ¹⁷ And God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that is on the earth."

1 Peter 3:18-22

¹⁸ For Christ also ¹⁹ suffered for sins once for all *time, the* just for *the* unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the ²⁰ spirit; in ²¹ which He also went and made proclamation to the spirits in prison, who once were disobedient when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through *the* water. ²² Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God ²³ for a good conscience—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him.

Mark 1:9-15

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And immediately coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens [Ⓜ]opening, and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon Him; ¹¹ and a voice came from the heavens: "You are My beloved Son; in You I [Ⓜ]am well pleased."

¹² And immediately the Spirit ^{*}brought Him out into the wilderness. ¹³ And He was in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by Satan; and He was with the wild animals, and the angels were serving Him.

¹⁴ Now after John was [Ⓜ]taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, [Ⓜ]preaching the gospel of God, ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God [Ⓜ]is at hand; repent and [Ⓜ]believe in the gospel."