

■ First Sunday of Lent (Year B)

First Reading - *Genesis 9.8-15*

A reading from the book of Genesis.

God said to Noah, 'Today,
I make a covenant,
with you,
and with all
your descendants,
with the animals
and the birds,
with every living creature
that came out of the ark,
and with all the earth,
for all generations:
that never again
will all life
be destroyed
by the waters
of a flood.
I set the rainbow
in the clouds,
as a sign
of the covenant
that I make with you;
and when
the rainbow
appears
in the clouds,
I will remember
the covenant
that I make with you
this day.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Second Reading - *1 Peter 3.20-21*

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

In the times of disobedience,
in the days of Noah,
God showed
great patience,
so that some
could be saved
"through the waters",
by the building
of an ark.
In the same way,
you are now saved
through the waters of baptism,
not as a removal
of dirt
from the body,
but as an appeal to God
for cleansing from sin,
and for salvation
through the resurrection
of Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

Gospel - *Mark 1.9-15*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Mark.

Jesus came from Nazareth
in Galilee,
and was baptised by John
in the river Jordan.

As Jesus
came up
out of the water,
he saw the heavens
torn open,
and the Spirit
descending on him
like a dove.

And a voice
came from heaven:
'You are
my beloved Son,
and I delight
in you.'

And the Spirit
immediately
drove him out
into the wilderness.

He was in the wilderness
forty days,
tempted by Satan.

And he was with
the wild animals.

And the angels
waited on him.

After John
was arrested,
Jesus came to Galilee,
proclaiming
the good news of God,
saying, 'The time is fulfilled,
and the kingdom of God
has come near;
repent, and believe
the good news.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.