Daily Reading for Sunday, February 21st, 2021

Reading 1, Genesis 9:8-15

⁸ God spoke as follows to <u>Noah</u> and his sons, ⁹ 'I am now establishing my covenant with you and with your descendants to come, ¹⁰ and with every living creature that was with you: birds, cattle and every wild animal with you; everything that came out of the ark, every living thing on earth. ¹¹ And I shall maintain my covenant with you: that never again shall all living things be destroyed by the waters of a flood, nor shall there ever again be a flood to devastate the earth.' ¹² 'And this', <u>God</u> said, 'is the sign of the covenant which I now make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all ages to come: ¹³ I now set my bow in the clouds and it <u>will</u> be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴ When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, ¹⁵ I shall recall the covenant between myself and you and every living creature, in a word all living things, and never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all living things.

Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

- ⁴ DIRECT me in your ways, Yahweh, and teach me your paths.
- ⁵ ENCOURAGE me to walk in your <u>truth</u> and teach me since you are the <u>God</u> who saves me. FOR my <u>hope</u> is in you all day long -- such is your generosity, Yahweh.
- ⁶ GOODNESS and faithful love have been yours for ever, Yahweh, do not forget them. ⁷ HOLD not my youthful sins against me, but remember me as your faithful love dictates.

⁸ INTEGRITY and generosity are marks of <u>Yahweh</u> for he brings sinners back to the path. ⁹ JUDICIOUSLY he guides the humble, instructing the poor in his way.

Reading 2, First Peter 3:18-22

¹⁸ Christ himself died once and for all for sins, the upright for the sake of the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the <u>spirit</u> he was raised to life, ¹⁹ and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison.

²⁰ They refused to believe long ago, while <u>God</u> patiently waited to receive them, in Noah's <u>time</u> when the ark was being built. In it only a few, that is eight souls, were saved through water. ²¹ It is the <u>baptism</u> corresponding to this water which saves you now -- not the washing off of physical dirt but the pledge of a <u>good conscience</u> given to <u>God</u> through the resurrection of <u>Jesus</u> Christ, ²² who has entered <u>heaven</u> and is at God's <u>right</u> hand, with angels, ruling forces and powers subject to him.

Gospel, *Mark 1:12-15*

¹² And at once the <u>Spirit</u> drove him into the desert ¹³ and he remained there for forty days, and was put to the test by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and the <u>angels</u> looked after him. ¹⁴ After <u>John</u> had been arrested, <u>Jesus</u> went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the gospel from <u>God</u> saying, ¹⁵ 'The <u>time</u> is fulfilled, and the kingdom of <u>God</u> is close at hand. Repent, and believe the gospel.'