

The First Sunday of Lent Year B

Sunday, February 21, 2021

Readings: 1) Genesis 9:8-15 2) 1 Peter 3:18-22 3) Mark 1:12-15

Sunday Liturgy

The focus for today's Mass is: If we go into the desert with Jesus this Lent, his grace will move us forward in our life of faith.

Lent isn't an end unto itself; we go into the desert with Jesus in order to advance in holiness and in our spiritual life. All the blessings and trials in our lives are not closed events. They're precursors to more: greater trust in God, deeper union with him, and a greater sense of our mission to proclaim the kingdom of God.

In the first reading, God establishes a covenant with Noah and his sons, promising never to flood the earth again. In the second reading, Peter writes to his community about those *in the days of Noah* who were saved through water. This prefigured baptism, which is what saves them now. In the Gospel, Jesus is tempted by Satan in the desert. He then goes to Galilee to begin his public ministry.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

PRIEST:

Heavenly Father, hear our prayers we offer in faith and hope.

**For the Church, throughout the world,
may the Lord guide and protect her in proclaiming the kingdom of God.**

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

**For those who govern,
may the Spirit guide them in their decision making for the common good.**

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

**For all who are sick in mind, body and spirit,
may God's presence offer comfort and healing.**

We Pray to the Lord. Lord hear our prayer.

**For all who have passed away,
may Christ's eternal light shine upon them.**

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

**For our faith community,
may Christ bless our practices of prayer, fasting and
almsgiving during this Lenten season.**

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For our own personal intentions... (pause).

We Pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

PRIEST:

Heavenly Father, hear our prayers and answer them according to your holy will.
We ask this through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.