

## **FEBRUARY 16, 2017 THURSDAY**

### **Reading 1GN 9:1-13**

God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them: "Be fertile and multiply and fill the earth. Dread fear of you shall come upon all the animals of the earth and all the birds of the air, upon all the creatures that move about on the ground and all the fishes of the sea; into your power they are delivered. Every creature that is alive shall be yours to eat; I give them all to you as I did the green plants. Only flesh with its lifeblood still in it you shall not eat. For your own lifeblood, too, I will demand an accounting: from every animal I will demand it, and from one man in regard to his fellow man I will demand an accounting for human life. If anyone sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; For in the image of God has man been made. Be fertile, then, and multiply; abound on earth and subdue it." God said to Noah and to his sons with him: "See, I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you: all the birds, and the various tame and wild animals that were with you and came out of the ark. I will establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all bodily creatures be destroyed by the waters of a flood; there shall not be another flood to devastate the earth." God added: "This is the sign that I am giving for all ages to come, of the covenant between me and you and every living creature with you: I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth."

### **Responsorial Psalm PS 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 AND 22-23**

R. (20b) From heaven the Lord looks down on the earth.

The nations shall revere your name, O LORD,  
and all the kings of the earth your glory,  
When the LORD has rebuilt Zion  
and appeared in his glory;  
When he has regarded the prayer of the destitute,  
and not despised their prayer.

R. From heaven the Lord looks down on the earth.

Let this be written for the generation to come,  
and let his future creatures praise the LORD:  
"The LORD looked down from his holy height,  
from heaven he beheld the earth,  
To hear the groaning of the prisoners,  
to release those doomed to die."

R. From heaven the Lord looks down on the earth.

The children of your servants shall abide,  
and their posterity shall continue in your presence,  
That the name of the LORD may be declared in Zion,  
and his praise, in Jerusalem,  
When the peoples gather together,  
and the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.

R. From heaven the Lord looks down on the earth.

### **Alleluia JN 6:63C, 68C**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life;  
you have the words of everlasting life.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

### **Gospel MK 8:27-33**

Jesus and his disciples set out for the villages of Caesarea Philippi. Along the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" They said in reply, "John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others one of the prophets." And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said to him in reply, "You are the Christ." Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him. He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days. He spoke this openly. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples, rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

### **Reflection:**

Peter's profession of Faith Messiah is the Hebrew word for the Greek "Christos" in English Christ. They both mean the anointed or consecrated one. This term designates the long awaited

Savior. The apostles discover that Jesus is the Christ, the liberator. This section of the Gospel concludes the first part of Jesus' ministry, that is, his Galilean mission. Which consists mostly of his deeds. Before he begins his Jerusalem ministry which will highlight his passion and death, he wishes to clarify his identity with his disciples. Peter's confession of Jesus as the Messiah is apparently correct. But Peter at this stage still thinks of him merely as a miracle working Messiah and a person of grandeur, that has been the traditional concept of the messiah. As a Christian, let us understand properly who Jesus is? Rather than considering Him, as a prophet, healer, miracle worker and etc.....