

# January 9 Monday

## Baptism of the Lord

### Reading1 IS 42:1-4, 6-7

Thus says the LORD: Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my spirit; he shall bring forth justice to the nations, not crying out, not shouting, not making his voice heard in the street. a bruised reed he shall not break, and a smoldering wick he shall not quench, until he establishes justice on the earth; the coastlands will wait for his teaching. I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice, I have grasped you by the hand; I formed you, and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

### Responsorial Psalm PS 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10

R. (11b) **The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

Give to the LORD, you sons of God,  
give to the LORD glory and praise,  
Give to the LORD the glory due his name;  
adore the LORD in holy attire.

R. **The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

The voice of the LORD is over the waters,  
the LORD, over vast waters.

The voice of the LORD is mighty;  
the voice of the LORD is majestic.

R. **The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

The God of glory thunders,  
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

The LORD is enthroned above the flood;  
the LORD is enthroned as king forever.

R. **The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

### Alleluia MK 9:7

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

The heavens were opened and the voice of the Father thundered:

This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

### Gospel MT 3:13-17

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed him. After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

### Reflection:

The rain of grace, which falls from heaven, does not return unless it meets the intention of God. In the Gospel, Jesus receives the outpour of the grace from the father at His baptism. The spirit of God sets in motion the will of Jesus to lead Him on to the heroic salvific mission, which demands self-sacrifice. When He chooses to fulfill the mission of the Father, he speaks to Him, "you are my son". Jesus proved himself to be the son of the father and brought forth abundance of fruits through his life, passion, death and resurrection. God the father had thrown open the doors of heaven at the time of our baptism and showered forth the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit on us. How do we prove ourselves as the sons and daughters of the father? Whatever might be our present condition, it is left to ourselves to respond creatively to the grace of God. For God continues to pour forth His graces in order to make us His beloved children.