

## Our Lady of Perpetual Help

# Reflecting On Sunday's Readings

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY — January 10, 2021

### First Reading — 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.**

### Second Reading — Acts 10:34-38

34 And Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I  
perceive that God shows no partiality, 35 but in  
every nation anyone who fears him and does what  
is right is acceptable to him. 36 You know the word  
which he sent to Israel, preaching good news of  
peace by Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), 37 the  
word which was proclaimed throughout all  
Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism  
which John preached: 38 how God anointed Jesus  
of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power;  
how he went about doing good and healing all that  
were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him

### Gospel Reading — Mark 1:7-11

7 And he preached, saying, "After me comes he  
who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I  
am not worthy to stoop down and untie. 8  
I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize  
you with the Holy Spirit." 9 In those days Jesus  
came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized  
by John in the Jordan. 10 And when he  
came up out of the water, immediately he saw the  
heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon  
him like a dove; 11 and a voice came from heaven,  
"Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well  
pleased."

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### INVITATION TO PRAY

Pause for a few moments of silence and enter more deeply into the presence of God...

### Proclaim the Scriptures out loud

As you listen to the scriptures be attentive to a word, a phrase, a question, an image, or a feeling that emerges. Reflect on this quietly or share it aloud.

### INVITATION TO REFLECT

### INVITATION TO GROUP SHARING

#### First Reading —

1. How would you describe in your own words the Lord's mission as explained in this passage?
2. Why do you think that justice is such an important issue with God?

#### Second Reading —

3. What are some of the ways in which we can demonstrate that God shows no partiality?

#### Gospel Reading —

4. How do you view both Jesus' willingness and his decision to be baptized?
5. How does this incident in Jesus' life testify to his authenticity as God's Son?
6. What does this passage regarding Jesus' baptism reveal about the Trinity?

### INVITATION TO ACT

*Determine a specific action (individual or group) that flows from your sharing. When choosing an individual action, determine what you will do and share it with the group. When choosing a group action, determine who will take responsibility for different aspects of the action. These should be your primary considerations.*

### CLOSING INVITATION TO PRAY

*Give thanks to God (aloud or silently) for new insights, for desires awakened, for directions clarified, for the gift of one another's openness and sensitivity. Conclude with a final prayer.*