

A Day by Day Spiritual Journey Through Advent
With Deacon Chris

Second Sunday of Advent

Light a candle and make sure it is safe and don't leave unattended.

Getting Ready

God was disappointed with Adam and Eve but because he wanted to share his love with the whole of humanity he decided to give another chance.

Chapters 6 to 11 of Genesis tell us the story of Noah and the ark. After the flood God gave us the rainbow as a symbol of the covenant that he made with humanity

Our symbol for Noah is the ark and rainbow.

God called Abram to leave his home and family to go off to a land that he would show him. God made a promise that he would have descendants as many as the stars in the sky and grains of sand on the shore. God also changed Abram's name to Abraham. Eventually Abraham and Sarah had a son, Isaac.

Abraham and Isaac were going up a mountain to make a sacrifice to God, who had asked Abraham to sacrifice his son. This was a test. Abraham was spared this because he had been true to God who gave him a ram that was caught in a bush. Our symbol is a depiction of the ram and the bush.

Isaac had a son Jacob who in turn had twelve sons. One of them, Joseph had a multicoloured coat. Sadly, some of his brothers couldn't abide him and plotted to do away with him. Instead of killing him they sold him. In Egypt Joseph was respected by all and when his father and brothers arrived there because of famine he welcomed them.

After Joseph and Pharaoh had died a new regime took over and oppressed the Israelites. Pharaoh ordered that all males under the age of 2 should be slaughtered. Moses survived and was adopted by Pharaoh's daughter.

Eventually, he was called by God to lead his people out of Egypt. Whilst they were going through the desert God made another covenant with us and the symbol of the Ten Commandments signifies this.



In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

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O Lord, our lives seem to be ever governed by the clock. We have timescales to meet and there are never enough hours in the day to do what we have to do let alone what we want to do. Help us to slow down and take stock of what is vital, what is important and what is nice to have but of little relevance. To you a thousand years may be like a day and vice versa. Grant us the patience that you show to us. Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Reading:

St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians Chapter 1 verses 3 to 6 and 8 to 11.

St. Paul uses that much maligned word 'love'. His prayer is that the love they have for each other will grow. That it will increase more and more. When we meet someone and our feelings for them and theirs for us come to the front we want that love to grow. Do we ever think about our love for God growing or increasing? The same question can be asked about our relationship with our family and our neighbour. It is a wonderful prayer to say for others and others say for us

Your Own Time.

Rosary. Your own dedication

Concluding Prayer

Lord, there are many things that can distract us from our mission but with your help we can be prepared. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.