

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS (Baptism)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus
were baptized into his death?

We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death,
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his,
we shall also be united with him in the resurrection.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

We know that all things work for good for those who love God,
who are called according to his purpose.

For those he foreknew he also predestined
to be conformed to the image of his Son,
so that he might be the firstborn
among many brothers.

And those he predestined he also called;
and those he called he also justified;
and those he justified he also glorified.

What then shall we say to this?

If God is for us, who can be against us?

He who did not spare his own Son
but handed him over for us all,
how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

As a body is one though it has many parts,
and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body,
so also Christ.

For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body,
whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons,
and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians

Brothers and sisters:

Through faith you are all children of God in Christ Jesus.

For all of you who were baptized into Christ
have clothed yourselves with Christ.
There is neither Jew nor Greek,
there is neither slave nor free person,
there is not male and female;
for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters:
I, a prisoner for the Lord,
urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received,
with all humility and gentleness, with patience,
bearing with one another through love,
striving to preserve the unity of the Spirit
through the bond of peace:
one body and one Spirit,
as you were also called to the one hope of your call;
one Lord, one faith, one baptism;
one God and Father of all,
who is over all and through all and in all.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

Beloved:
Come to him, a living stone, rejected by human beings
but chosen and precious in the sight of God,
and, like living stones,
let yourselves be built into a spiritual house
to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices
acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

You are “a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
a holy nation, a people of his own,
so that you may announce the praises” of him
who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Once you were “no people”
but now you are God’s people;
you “had not received mercy”
but now you have received mercy.