

Animals in the Bible



Did you know doves produce their own milk? Yep, it's called "crop milk" or "pigeon's milk." It's an oddity in nature for birds to produce their own milk to feed their young. From this unique ability, we can glean; **symbolism of nurturing**. In fact, doves are commonly considered a symbol of motherhood.

Doves often cease their foraging for food just before their babies are born. This temporary starvation insures a pure formulation of milk (otherwise their offspring could not digest bits of solid food in the milk). That's another confirmation about maternal qualities as well as **self-sacrifice** for the sake of their young.

The dove is even associated with several mother figures in historical dove symbolism. Take the Mother Mary in Christianity. The dove is commonly seen in Christian art with Mary as a **symbol of care**, devotion, purity and peace. The dove is a companion of Ishtar too, the Great Mother of Assyrian culture. In this motherly light, the dove brings about a promise of hope and salvation.

Key Questions...

How can we achieve peace
in our own lives?



This week's Sacred Time

Can teach us:
DEMOCRACY

For we have the freedom of
Speech to stand up for peace.



Sacred Time – Animals in

Lord, Make me an instrument of your
Peace. Where there is hatred, Let me
sow Love; Where there is injury,
Pardon; Where there is doubt, Faith;
Where there is despair, Hope; Where
there is darkness, Light; Where there
is sadness, Joy. O Divine Master, Grant
that I may not so much seek to
be consoled as to Console, to be
understood as to Understand, to be
loved as to Love; For it is in Giving
that we receive. It is in Pardoning
that we are pardoned. And it is in
dying that we are Born to Eternal
Life. Amen.
-Saint Francis

LENT 1: WEEK 4

Bible

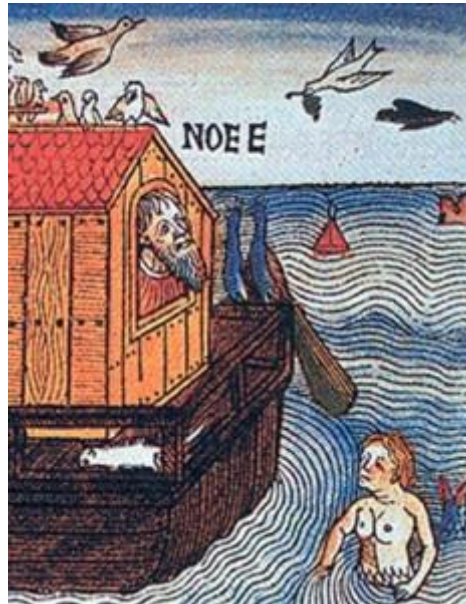
LUKE 3: THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

KJV

Now when all the people were baptised, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptised, and praying, the heaven was opened, And the **Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him**, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.

Biblical

Where is the animal mentioned in the Bible?



A dove returns to Noah's ark with an olive branch in its beak, a sign that life had returned to the earth after the great flood. Sailors throughout history have used birds to guide them to dry land. Pictured is a detail of a woodcut from the Nuremberg Bible.

Credit: Victoria & Albert Picture Library.

News of the World

Find out what is going on in the world or watch **BBC** newsround

Lord, we place these people and situations before you and ask you to help. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Make a PAPER DOVE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MHujwo6aCzU>

And I said, Oh that I had wings like a dove! for then would I fly away, and be at rest.

- Psalms 55,6

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<http://formtimeideas.com/>

Sacred Time – *Animals in the Bible*