

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD < A (MASS DURING THE DAY)

May 18, 2023

In the first book, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught until the day he was taken up, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for “the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

When they had gathered together they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” He answered them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.”

The word of the Lord.

R/ Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 47 [Praise to the Lord]

R./ God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All you peoples, clap your hands, shout to God with cries of gladness. For the LORD, the Most High, the awesome, is the great king over all the earth. **(R.)**

God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy; the LORD, amid trumpet blasts. Sing praise to God, sing praise; sing praise to our king, sing praise. **(R.)**

For king of all the earth is God; sing hymns of praise. God reigns over the nations, God sits upon his holy throne. **(R.)**

Second Reading Eph 1:17-23

[Glorification of Jesus]

Our hope is in God. He is our strength. With Christ our head, we his people will receive the gift of wisdom and insight.

MC: Greeting

Entrance song

STAND

Introduction by the Celebrant

**ENTRANCE ANT. [The Lord Will Return]
Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.**

Penitential Act

Lord Jesus ascends above the highest heavens
Let us ask forgiveness for our sins:

(pause)

Lord Jesus,
give us your spirit to enlighten the eyes of our heart,
to remove our doubts that you are with us all the way:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus Christ,
you send us out to make disciples of all nations,
but we are not missionary enough:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus,
too often we live for this world only
and forget your gift of everlasting life.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Have mercy on us, Lord,
and heal us from all sin.
Let your Spirit guide us
to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Glory to God in the highest

C: Collect [Thankful for the Ascension]

Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God,
and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving,
for the Ascension of Christ your Son is
our exaltation,
and, where the Head has gone before in glory,
the Body is called to follow in hope.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.
R/ Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

SIT

**First Reading Acts 1:1-11 [Christ's Ascension]
Christ is divine! He will come again! Our faith affirms
this for us. We live in the era of the Holy Spirit.**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Sign Of Peace

Priest : Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your
Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I
give you; look not on our sins, but on the
faith of your Church, and graciously grant
her peace and unity in accordance with
your will. Who live and reign for ever and
ever.

People : Amen

Priest : The peace of the Lord be with you
always

People : And with your Spirit.

Priest : Let us offer each other the sign of peace

Breaking of the Bread

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Grant us peace.**

Reception of Communion

KNEEL

Priest : Behold the Lamb of God, behold him
who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of
the Lamb.

**People : Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

Priest : The body of Christ.

Answer : Amen

Priest : The blood of Christ.

Answer : Amen

Communion

Prayer after Communion [United with Christ]

STAND

Almighty ever-living God, who allow those on earth
to celebrate divine mysteries, grant, we pray, that
Christian hope may draw us onward to where our
nature is united with you.
Through Christ our Lord. **R/ Amen.**

General Announcements

SIT

Blessing

STAND

Lord Jesus said to His disciples: “Be my witnesses
to the whole world.” Let us be His message of hope
to people on earth by the way we live His gospel.
Amen.

May His Spirit remains with us now and till the end
of time. **Amen.**

And may almighty God bless you all, the Father,
and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Go in peace
to love and serve the Lord in the people around us.
R/ Thanks be to God.

In Communion with the Saints

May he make of us an eternal offering to you, so
that we may obtain an inheritance with your elect,
especially with the most Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her Spouse,
with your blessed Apostles and glorious Martyrs,
with Saint N: *patron saint* and with all the Saints, on
whose constant intercession in your presence we
rely for unfailing help.

Intercessions: For the Church

May this Sacrifice of our reconciliation, we pray, O
Lord, advance the peace and salvation of all the world.
Be pleased to confirm in faith and charity your
pilgrim Church on earth, with your servant N. our
Pope and N. our Bishop, the Order of Bishops, all
the clergy, and the entire people you have gained for
your own.

For the Living

Listen graciously to the prayers of this family, whom
you have summoned before you: in your
compassion, O merciful Father, gather to yourself
all your children scattered throughout the world.

For the Dead

To our departed brothers and sisters and to all who
were pleasing to you at their passing from this life,
give kind admittance to your kingdom. There we
hope to enjoy for ever the fullness of your glory
through Christ our Lord, through whom you
bestow on the world all that is good.

Concluding Doxology

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God,
almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all
glory and honor is yours, for ever, and ever. **Amen.**

Communion Rite

STAND

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Priest:

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant us peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

People:

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours, now and for ever.**

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters: May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him. May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call, what are the riches of glory in his inheritance among the holy ones, and what is the surpassing greatness of his power of us who believe, in accord with the exercise of his great might, which he worked in Christ, raising him from the dead and seating him at his right hand in the heavens, far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion, and every name that is named not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things beneath his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way.

*The word of the Lord.
R/ Thanks be to God.*

Alleluia Mt 28:19a,20b
[Christ's Abiding Presence]
R/ Alleluia, alleluia.

STAND

Go and teach all nations, says the Lord;
I am with you always, until the end of the world.
R/ Alleluia, alleluia.



Gospel Mt 28:16-20 *[Commission of the Apostles]*
Jesus speaks to the eleven admitting his full authority. He commissions them to make disciples of all people, to baptize them. Jesus also promises to be with them to the end of the world.

**R/ The Lord be with you.
R/ And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R/ Glory to you, O Lord

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

*The Gospel of the Lord.
R/ Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

Homily

SIT

I believe in God

STAND

General Intercessions

Let us acclaim and praise the Lord, who was lifted up beyond our sight, and victoriously taken up to the right hand of the Father:

(pause)

For the Church: the people of God will live with an ardent hope for heaven, facing earthly trials with hope, courage, love and faith in the Lord. Let us pray: **Glorious Lord, hear our prayer.**

For Christian husbands and wives: that they be strengthened in their loving commitment and faithfulness to one another, modeling the union of Christ, the Groom and his Bride, the Church. Let us pray: **Glorious Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our Parish community: that the mystery of Ascension strengthens and nourishes our souls, in bringing solidarity to the families; and to bear witness to the presence of Christ in our midst through generosity, charity, and faithfulness to the Gospel. Let us pray: **Glorious Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all our faithful departed loved ones: that they may enjoy eternal life with Christ, risen from the dead and reigning gloriously in heaven. Let us pray: **Glorious Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, You are the Head of the Church, we humbly seek Your providence of the St. Peter Canisius International Catholic Parish, through the grace of Your Ascension to kindle in us the fire of your divine love and to be Your Light to the nations. Let us pray:

Glorious Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those intentions offered for the Mass and for our personal intentions ...

(Pause)

Let us pray: **Glorious Lord, hear our prayer.**

Loving Father, because of the Ascension of your Son our human nature is now at home with you in heaven. May this truth be our lasting encouragement and hope. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SL: Offertory hymn

SIT

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Bread

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you:

fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.

All : Blessed be God for ever.

Preparation of the Wine

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

All : Blessed be God for ever.

Invitation To Prayer

STAND

Priest : Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

People : **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his Holy Church**

**Prayer over the Offerings
[Rise to Heavenly Realms]**

STAND

We offer sacrifice now in supplication, O Lord, to honor the wondrous Ascension of your Son: grant, we pray, that through this most holy exchange, we, too, may rise up to the heavenly realms. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

STAND

Introductory Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just

Preface I of the Ascension of the Lord

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For the Lord Jesus, the King of glory, conqueror of sin and death, ascended (today) to the highest heavens, as the Angels gazed in wonder.

Mediator between God and man, judge of the world and Lord of hosts, he ascended, not to distance himself from our lowly state but that we, his members, might be confident of following where he, our Head and Founder, has gone before.

Therefore, overcome with paschal joy, every land, every people exults in your praise and even the heavenly Powers, with the angelic

hosts, sing together the unending hymn of your glory, as they acclaim:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts....

Eucharistic Prayer No.3

KNEEL

Praise to the Father

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, and all you have created rightly gives you praise, for through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, by the power and working of the Holy Spirit, you give life to all things and make them holy, and you never cease to gather a people to yourself, so that from the rising of the sun to its setting a pure sacrifice may be offered to your name.

Invocation of the Holy Spirit

Therefore, O Lord, we humbly implore you: by the same Spirit graciously make holy these gifts we have brought to you for consecration that they may become the Body and Blood of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, at whose command we celebrate these mysteries.

The Lord's Supper

For on the night he was betrayed he himself took bread, and, giving you thanks, he said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take this, all of you, and eat of it, for this is my Body, which will be given up for you.

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, giving you thanks, he said the blessing and gave the chalice to his disciples, saying:

Take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this in memory of me.

Memorial Acclamation

Priest : The mystery of faith.

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

The Memorial Prayer

Therefore, O Lord, as we celebrate the memorial of the saving Passion of your Son, his wondrous Resurrection and Ascension into heaven, and as we look forward to his second coming, we offer you in thanksgiving this holy and living sacrifice.

Invocation of the Holy Spirit

Look, we pray, upon the oblation of your Church and, recognizing the sacrificial Victim by whose death you willed to reconcile us to yourself, grant that we, who are nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son and filled with his Holy Spirit, may become one body, one spirit in Christ.