

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Acts 1: 11**

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.

**ENTRANCE HYMN**

Let the earth rejoice and sing, alleluia,  
At the triumph of our King, alleluia.  
He ascends from mortal sight, alleluia,  
Reigns now at our Father's right, alleluia.

He who died upon a tree, alleluia,  
Now shall reign eternally, alleluia.  
He who saved our fallen race, alleluia,  
Takes in heav'n his rightful place, alleluia.

While in heaven thou dost gaze, alleluia,  
On thy Church who sings thy praise, alleluia,  
Fasten all our hope in thee, alleluia,  
Till thy face unveiled we see, alleluia.

**Priest:** In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**And with your spirit.**

**PENITENTIAL ACT**

Brethren (Brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom: Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You will come in glory with salvation for your people: Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

**The absolution by the priest follows:**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**



# THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

1st June 2025



**GLORIA**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.  
We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
**Amen.**

**COLLECT**

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.

**Amen.**

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

SIT

**FIRST READING**

1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. "It is" he had said "what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit."

Now having met together, they asked him, "Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth."

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, "Why are you

men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Ps 46:2-3.6-9.R.v.6*

**R. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.**

**Or Alleluia.**

1. All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God, with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. **R.**
2. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. **R.**
3. God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. **R.**

#### SECOND READING

*1:17-23*

**A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians**

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



#### STAND

#### ACCLAMATION Mat 28: 19-20

**Alleluia, alleluia!  
Go, make disciples of all the  
nations; I am with you always;  
yes, to the end of time.  
Alleluia**

#### GOSPEL

*24:46-53*

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your Spirit.**  
A reading from the holy  
Gospel according to Luke  
**Glorify to you, O Lord.**



Jesus said to his disciples: "You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

"And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high."

Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

#### STAND

#### PROFESSION OF FAITH

**I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial  
with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
(All bow during the next three lines)  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate  
of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.  
For our sake he was crucified under  
Pontius Pilate,**

**he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the  
Father.**

**He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and  
the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is  
adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in one, holy, catholic and  
apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the  
forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection  
of the dead  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

#### PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

#### SIT

#### LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

##### *Raising the host, the priest says:*

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.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

##### *The priest pours wine and a little water into the chalice, saying quietly:*

By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

##### *Raising the chalice, the priest says:*

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.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

##### *Bowing the priest says quietly:*

With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, O Lord.

##### *Then the priest washes his hands, saying quietly:*

Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity; and cleanse me from my sin.

STAND

*Facing the people the priest says:*

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),  
that my sacrifice and yours  
may be acceptable to God,  
the almighty Father.

**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**

We offer sacrifice now in supplication,  
O Lord, to honour 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.**

#### ***EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER II*** ***PREFACE I of The Ascension***

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**

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.  
Heaven and earth are full of  
your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name  
of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

KNEEL

You are indeed Holy, O Lord,  
the fount of all holiness.

*The Priest joins his hands and, holding them  
extended over the offerings, says:*

Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we  
pray,  
by sending down your Spirit upon  
them like the dewfall,  
so that they may become for us  
the Body ✠ and Blood of our Lord,  
Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed  
and entered willingly into his Passion,  
he took bread and, giving thanks,  
broke it,  
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, once more giving thanks,  
he gave it 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.

#### **The mystery of faith**

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection  
until you come again.**

*Then the Priest, with hands extended, says:*

Therefore, as we celebrate the  
memorial of his Death and  
Resurrection, we offer you, Lord,  
the Bread of life and the Chalice of  
salvation, giving thanks that you have  
held us worthy  
to be in your presence and minister to  
you.

Humbly we pray that, partaking of the  
Body and Blood of Christ,  
we may be gathered into one by the  
Holy Spirit.  
Remember, Lord, your Church,  
spread throughout the world,

and bring her to the fullness of charity,  
together with N. , our Pope, N. our  
Bishop, his assistant Bishop(s), and  
all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and  
sisters who have fallen asleep in the  
hope of the resurrection,  
and all who have died in your mercy:  
welcome them into the light of your  
face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray,  
that with the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
Mother of God, with blessed Joseph,  
her Spouse, with the blessed  
Apostles,  
and all the Saints who have pleased  
you throughout the ages,  
we may merit to be coheirs to eternal  
life, and may praise and glorify you  
through your Son, Jesus Christ.

*The Priest takes the chalice and the paten  
with the host and, elevating both, he says:*

Through him, and with him, and in  
him,

O God, almighty Father,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honour is yours,  
for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

### COMMUNION RITE

STAND

At the Saviour's command  
and formed by divine teaching,  
we dare to say:

**Our Father, who art in heaven . . .**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,  
graciously grant 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 Saviour, Jesus  
Christ.

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

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.  
**Amen.**



The peace of the Lord be with you  
always.

**And with your Spirit.**

*The priest may add these or similar words.*  
Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*The priest places a small piece of the host in  
the chalice saying quietly:*

May this mingling of the body and  
blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
bring eternal life to us who receive it.

*Meanwhile the people sing or say:*

**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.**



*The priest says quietly:*

May the receiving of your Body and  
Blood,  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
not bring me to judgement and  
condemnation,  
but through your loving mercy  
be for me protection in mind and body,  
and a healing remedy.

*Raising the host the priest says:*

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.

*And together with the people he says once:*

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

May the Body of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

*The Priest reverently consumes the Body of  
Christ.*

*Then he takes the chalice and says quietly:*  
May the Blood of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

*The Priest raises a host slightly and shows it  
to each of the communicants, saying:*  
The Body of Christ.

**Amen.**



**COMMUNION ANTIPHON Mt 28: 20**  
**Behold, I am with you always,  
even to the end of the age, alleluia.**

### COMMUNION HYMN

**Alleluia, Bread of Angels,  
thou on earth our food, our stay;  
alleluia, here the sinful  
flee to thee from day to day;  
intercessor, friend of sinners,  
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.**

**Alleluia, King eternal  
thee the Lord of lords we own;  
alleluia, born of Mary,  
earth thy footstool,  
heaven thy throne;  
thou within the veil hast entered,  
robed in flesh, out great High Priest;  
thou on earth both priest and victim  
in the Eucharistic Feast.**

### PRIVATE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, King of glory, you  
ascended in victory to the Father,  
but you do not leave us orphans.  
I treasure your promise 'Know that I  
am with you always;  
yes, to the end of time. Stay with us,  
Lord.

Lord Jesus, send the one you  
promised, the gift of the Father, the  
Holy Spirit, that your Church may  
spread your saving gospel  
to the ends of the earth.



### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.  
**Amen.**

### CONCLUDING RITES



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

### Blessing for the Ascension No7

May almighty God bless you, for on  
this very day his Only Begotten Son  
pierced the heights of heaven and  
unlocked for you the way to ascend to  
where he is. **Amen.**

May he grant that, as Christ after his  
Resurrection was seen plainly by his  
disciples, so when he comes as Judge  
he may show himself merciful to you  
for all eternity. **Amen.**

And may you, who believe he is  
seated with the Father in his majesty,  
know with joy the fulfilment of his  
promise to stay with you until the end  
of time. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, and the Son ✠ and the  
Holy Spirit, come down on you and  
remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Go and announce the Gospel of the  
Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### RECESSIONAL HYMN

**Praise, my soul, the king of heaven!  
To his feet thy tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
who like me his praise should sing?**

*Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise him! Praise him!  
Praise the everlasting king!*

**Praise him for his grace and favour  
to our fathers in distress;  
praise him still the same for ever,  
slow to chide and swift to bless. R**

**Father-like he tends and spares us;  
well our feeble frame he knows;  
in his hands he gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes. R**