

**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**

17th May 2026



**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**

*28:16-20*

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**



The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.”

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 Leo, 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.**

◆◆◆ KNEEL ◆◆◆

*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, sing to Jesus,  
his the sceptre, his the throne;  
alleluia, his the triumph,  
his the victory alone:  
hark the songs of peaceful Sion  
thunder like a mighty flood:  
Jesus, out of every nation,  
hath redeemed us by his blood.**

**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, our 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.

◆◆◆ STAND ◆◆◆

### 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

◆◆◆ STAND ◆◆◆

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  
Holly 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**