



ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH
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Pastor Andrew Koterba

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord - May 8, 2016

Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus
Chrystus.

R/. Na wieki, wiekow Amen.

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.

R/. Now and forever. Amen.

9:00 AM - "Christ Is Risen"

Mass Book page 63

READING I - Acts 1:1-11

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."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9

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 to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

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. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

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

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

READING II - Ephesians 1:17-23

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 for 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.

Priest/Lector: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

R./ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Priest/Lector: Go and teach all nations, says the Lord; I am with you always, until the end of the world.

R./ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

GOSPEL - Gospel Luke 24:46-53

Jesus said to his disciples: "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold I am sending the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, raised his hands, and blessed them. As he blessed them he parted from them and was taken up to heaven. They did him homage and then returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the temple praising God. This is the gospel of the Lord.

R/: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Immaculate Mary"

OUR FATHER - Mass book page 95

COMMUNION HYMN -
"Hail Mary, Gentle Woman"

RECESSIONAL HYMN -
"One Spirit, One Church"



*Happy Mother's Day
to All St. Francis Moms!*

MARY, MOTHER OF JESUS

My soul magnifies the Lord.

When the angel Gabriel told Mary that she was to conceive and give birth to the Son of God, he also informed her that her cousin, Elizabeth had also conceived six months previously, even though she was past childbearing age. Mary immediately went to visit Elizabeth in the hills of Judaea where she lived with her husband, Zacharias. On entering their home, Mary greeted Elizabeth, and the older woman felt the baby, later to be John the Baptist, stir in her womb. Then Elizabeth greeted Mary, "Blessed are you among woman, and blessed is your child." Then she told Mary that when she heard her voice, the child in her womb leaped for joy. "My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my savior. He has assigned to notice me, his humble servant, and from now on, all generations will call me blessed. For he who is mighty has done great things to me, God holy is his name." Then Mary continued to recount how God shows mercy to those who are in awe of him, that he puts down the mighty and uplifts the humble, that he satisfies the hungry and sends the rich away empty. Mary stayed with Elizabeth for the rest of her pregnancy and then returned home. In time she gave birth to Jesus, and soon after saved his life in Egypt where she and Joseph fled to escape Herod's soldiers who were sent to kill him. When Jesus began his own ministry, Mary, encouraged the act of compassion that was his first miracle, the changing of water into wine for the marriage at Cana. She accompanied John, the beloved apostle, to Calvary, and among Jesus, dying words was his desire that the two should look after each other as mother and son. Scripture tells us that Mary was part of the Christian community in Jerusalem after Jesus's Ascension, but her own death is not recorded. A strong popular tradition from the earliest times was that she was taken physically into heaven, and she resides as Queen of Heaven and Mother of All Living Things. She has many feast days in the liturgical calendar and traditionally the month of May is reserved for her honor. Hail Mary!



**ASCENSION SUNDAY
The Celebration
Continues!**

Ascension Day (Thursday, the fortieth day after Easter Sunday) celebrates the return of the Lord Jesus to heaven. After showing himself to His followers on a number of occasions, Jesus called them to a mountain top, spoke to them briefly, and, as they watched, ascended into heaven. Ascension Sunday is

the Sunday following Ascension Day.

"When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy."

—Luke 24:50-52



TODAY'S MASS INTENTIONS

**are for all Mothers,
living & deceased.**

*Mothers
hold their
children's hands
for a while,
but their hearts
forever.*

