



ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

1752 Harton Avenue • East Meadow, NY 11554
(516) 794-5189 • www.StFrancisPNCC.org
Pastor Andrew Kotera

May 16, 2021
Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord



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 the Lord Is Risen Today"

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 (3x). R:/ **Alleluia** (3x).

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

R:/ **Alleluia** (3x).

GOSPEL - Mark 16:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned. These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages. They will pick up serpents with their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not harm them. They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

So then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God. But they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs. This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

Following the Gospel will be Devotions to the Blessed Mother Mary.

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Blessed Assurance"

COMMUNION HYMN - "Christ Is Risen"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Hail Mary, Gentle Woman"

St. Francis Weekly "Faith Renewed"

ASCENSION SUNDAY The Celebration Continues!

Ascension Day - a 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

FLOWERS have sprung with Spring, and again we have the vases to provide, if you wish to bring some flowers to adorn and honor our altars. Nature's beauty remains always a special prayer and has the power to move our spirit. Thank you always for your gifts!

GOD IS IN THE SMALL STUFF

We easily find God in nature: the majesty of a rainbow after the thunderstorm; the incredible intricacy of a colony of ants; the still, quiet of a moonlit night; or the deafening roar of the mighty Niagara Falls. God is there, and we marvel at His handiwork.

We quickly identify God's involvement in the big celebrations of our lives; the birth of a child; the new job that remedies a financial crisis; or the car crash that left the vehicle totaled but our children unscathed. God is there, and we thank Him for His provision.

And we even acknowledge God's presence in the midst of tragedy: the report from the pathology lab; the severance notice; or the heartache in a home filled with broken relationships. God is there, and we depend upon Him for strength.

But seeing God in these "big things" of life is easy. The more difficult task - yet a challenge just as rewarding - is seeing God in our everyday, mundane activities. We need to have a "God consciousness" about our daily routine. We need a "divine perspective" about the details of life. We mustn't overlook God in the small stuff.

When we realize that God is in the ordinary, our daily grind suddenly has meaning and purpose. The household chores, whether the lawn or the laundry, become an opportunity to express love and care for the other members of the household. A walk to the mailbox brings a chance to greet the neighbor (who may be in desperate need of an encouraging word). The day at work presents the challenge of giving whole hearted effort which will be pleasing to God.

Before He created the universe ages ago, God knew all about us. We should not be surprised that He has ordered our days and is interactively involved in the events of our daily routine. Nothing escapes His notice. Nothing is too insignificant for His care. If we are involved with anything, so is He.

Live your life with an overwhelming sense that God is present in the details all around you. There will be no boring moments. Life will take on new meaning when you begin to see God in the small stuff!

Take a moment out and pray...

† † † † † † **PRAYERS** † † † † † † †

Health Needs: Lord God, Jesus, our Savior, Mary and all the Saints, we ask you to bring peace and your healing touch to those who are ill, afraid or worried. Amen.

Health Needs of: All who have the Coronavirus & Debbie Marciano, Beverly Hester, Gregory Klein, Jim Richards, Nancy Fernandez Petrozza, Sophia Kyriakakis, Billy Murphy, Helen de la Sota, Jeff Curtis, Ottavia Daquino, Linda Fryszacki, Daniella Vasquez, Bill & Ann Siebuhr, Blanca Vasquez, Iris Cafran, John Luis Vasquez, Eileen McChesney, Dennis Erb, Rosemary Rosen, Jay Lasker, Joe Glovack, Carla Calabrese, Janis Siebuhr, Debbie Granaldi, Joan Paczkoski, Dominick Ocello, Louise & Anthony Kuzniewski, Jorge Juan Vasquez, Jessica Arrubla, Elaine Bode, McNeill & McNeill-Peck Families, Emily Smith, Carol Renta & for all those who care for the sick and disabled.

Requiem Intentions for faithfully departed:

Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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