

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.

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

Communion Antiphon: **Behold, I am with you always,
 even to the end of the age, alleluia. Mt 8:20**

REFLECTION Instruments of the Lord
 'Go, preach the Gospel to all nations.' This was the farewell command of
 Christ. He has no body now on earth but ours. He has no hands but ours to
 raise up the fallen. No feet but ours to seek out the lost. No eyes but ours
 to see silent suffering tears. No ears but ours to listen to the lonely. No
 tongue but ours to speak comfort to the sad. No heart but ours to love the
 unloved. Lord, take pity on us, your timid, fearful disciples. Give us the
 courage to witness to you, and so the Gospel will be preached, and people
 will find their way into your kingdom.

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.**

Final Blessing:
 The Lord be with you: **And with your spirit.**
 May almighty God bless you,
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
 The Mass is ended: Go in peace. Alleluia. **Thanks be to God Alleluia.**

The Ascension of the Lord B

Entrance Antiphon:

**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. Acts 1:11**

Today we celebrate the feast of the Ascension. Just as the
 risen Lord commissioned his disciples, so he commissions
 us: to make the Good News known to all the world. Christ
 does not abandon us in that task. He gives us the Holy
 Spirit to fulfill his will.

The Lord Jesus ascended to the heavens where he is
 seated at God's right hand. Let us seek his mercy.
 Lord Jesus, you are the mediator between God and man.
 Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
 Lord Jesus, you are the judge of the world and Lord of all.
 Christ have mercy. **Christ, have mercy**
 Lord Jesus, you are the beginning, the head of the Church.
 Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy**



**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.**

Let us pray:

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that we, who believe that your Only Begotten
 Son, our Redeemer, ascended this day to the heavens, may in spirit dwell
 already in heavenly realms. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
 the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 1: 1-11

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

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

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.

Response

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.

Response

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.

Response

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians. Ephesians 1:17-23
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.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go, make disciples of all the nations;

I am with you always;

yes, to the end of time. Alleluia

GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven, and said to them: 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers; in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven; there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Offertory:

Pray, 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.**

Preface:

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And with your spirit.

We lift them up to the Lord.

It is right and just.