

# ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

THE PRIESTLY FRATERNITY OF ST. PETER

5TH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER



## Meditation on a World Without the Ascension

At the Last Supper Jesus told His Apostles, " **Because I have spoken these things to you, sorrow hath filled your heart. But I tell you the truth: it is expedient to you that I go...**"

What if Jesus didn't go? What if He just stayed with us after the resurrection, ruling and guiding the Church from here on earth? In an effort to better appreciate the actions of God, sometimes it's helpful to ponder things from a different perspective.

If Christ didn't ascend into heaven, what would He have done differently? Well, He would have undoubtedly continued to teach and to perform miracles. Eventually He would have to establish a home base for His religion, maybe Jerusalem, maybe Rome. Maybe He would have continued to travel around on foot spreading the Gospel to all whom He met. He would have drawn more and more to follow Him but He would have made many more enemies as well, maybe even nations of enemies. And with every generation that passed there would still be skeptics and critics. It would be amazing to hear Him preach, or to have our personal questions answered; but to see Christ in His human nature and believe in His divinity still

would have required faith. Our experience of Christ might be something like our experience of the pope, ie He would remain a person on the other side of the world. It would be an amazing thing to be able to see Him face to face, to look upon and to hear Him. Even if He held audiences all day, would it be likely that you would get a few minutes of face time? If Christ had not ascended, the apostles and his disciples would likely remain in His presence rather than going out and converting the world. How many examples in the faith would we have, how many martyrs, or teachers? Why would anyone try to explain Christ's words and meaning when He was still available to explain it Himself?

The faith of the Apostles at the time before the Ascension can be likened to a toddler; not that they were juvenile or weak, rather, their faith was young and not yet matured. Like a toddler who is often carried by his parents because his legs are not strong enough to stand for long on their own; so Christ held their faith in His hands because they weren't strong enough to stand on their own faith. In the arms of his mother or father, the child feels safe, secure, and strong. When the Apostles had Christ in their midst, they felt invincible, but when Christ was crucified, they hid in fear in the upper room. In fact their last words to Jesus before He ascended into Heaven were, "**Are you now at this time going to restore the kingdom of Israel?**" He had to ascend to the Father for the Holy Spirit would not come and the faith of the Apostles and disciples would be greatly stunted if He stayed. It wasn't until the Holy Spirit descended upon them in tongues of fire that the words, mission, and teachings of Christ made sense and the faith that Christ had planted in their souls would begin to take root and sprout fruit.

When Christ ascended into Heaven, He still remained with us, present in the Eucharist, present in the Gospel, present through the sanctifying grace of the sacraments, but especially present in the Holy Spirit. By ascending into Heaven, Christ allowed the faith of the apostles and disciples to grow to become something more than disciples, but martyrs, evangelists, doctors of the Church, He gave them to room to become saints. May God bless you. -Fr. C. Mahowald

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## LITURGY SCHEDULE

MAY 22 - 28

SUNDAY: 5TH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

8:00 AM LOW MASS  
10:15 AM HIGH MASS

MONDAY: FERIA OF PASCHALTIDE, ROGATION DAY

7:45 AM LOW MASS

TUESDAY: FERIA OF PASCHALTIDE, ROGATION DAY

7:45 AM LOW MASS

WEDNESDAY: VIGIL OF THE ASCENSION

7:45 AM LOW MASS

THURSDAY: ASCENSION OF OLJC

7:45 AM LOW MASS  
6:00 PM HIGH MASS

FRIDAY: ST. BEDE THE VENERABLE, DC

5:00 PM SOLEMN HOLY HOUR  
6:00 PM LOW MASS

SATURDAY: ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, BC

8:00 AM SOLEMN HOLY HOUR  
9:00 AM LOW MASS

### CONFESSIONS

SUNDAY: 7:15 AM AND 9:30 AM  
MON-THURS: 7:25AM - 7:40AM  
FRIDAY: 5:10 PM - 5:40 PM  
SATURDAY: 8:10 AM - 8:40 AM

OR BY APPOINTMENT

## Announcements and Upcoming Events



Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ

### Prayers For the Future FSSP Priests

Please keep the deacons of the FSSP that will be ordained to the priesthood this Friday, May 27th; Revs Mr: Isaac Mendoza, David Lopez, David Ramirez, Edgar Ramirez, Cidrian Cortez, Kent Grealy, and Noel Soares.

Father Mahowald will be away this week for vacation and to be present at Ordinations. (May 23 - May 29). Fr. Dorsa will be here holding down the fort.

Ascension Thursday is this Thursday May 26th and is a Holy Day of Obligation in this diocese. Please note the schedule:

- 7:45 am (Low Mass)
- 6:00 pm (High Mass)

*"And if any man think himself to be religious, not bridling his tongue, but deceiving his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Religion clean and undefiled before God and the Father, is this: to visit the fatherless and widows in their tribulation: and to keep one's self unspotted from this world."*

JAMES 1:26-27

### MASS INTENTIONS MAY 22 - 28

Sunday: 8:00 AM and 10:15 AM

Pro Populo

+Michael Teoli

rb: Van Beek Family

Monday: 7:45 AM

+Stephen Carey Hamilton

rb: Van Beek Family

Tuesday: 7:45 AM

Dawn McGurl

rb: Nicholas DeAntonio

Wednesday: 7:45 AM

+Sophie Starnier

rb: Nicholas DeAntonio

Thursday: 7:45 AM and 6:00 PM

Father Anthony Dorsa

rb: La Fata Family

Priest's intention

Friday: 6:00 PM

+Fr. Thomas Curley

rb: Seeley Family

Saturday: 9:00 AM

Fr. Mahowald's Priesthood

rb: La Fata Family

### Ascension Word Find

Find the words hidden in the letters below. Words may be horizontal, vertical, front

#### Prayer for Priests

By St. Teresa of Calcutta

Mary, Mother of Jesus, throw your mantle of purity over our priests.

Protect them, guide them, and keep them in your heart.

Be a Mother to them, especially in times of discouragement and loneliness.

Love them and keep them belonging completely to Jesus.

Like Jesus, they, too, are your sons, so keep their hearts pure and virginal.

Keep their minds filled with Jesus, and put Jesus always on their lips, so that he is the one they offer to sinner and to all they meet.

Mary, Mother of Jesus, be their Mother, loving them and bringing them joy.

Take special care of sick and dying priests, and the ones most tempted.

Remember how they spent their youth and old age, their entire lives serving and giving all to Jesus.

Mary, bless them and keep a special place for them in your heart.

Give them a piece of your heart, so beautiful and pure and immaculate, so full of love and humility, so that they, too, can grow in the likeness of Christ.

Dear Mary, make them humble like you, and holy like Jesus. Amen.

L D D I K T O T T N E N E V K  
 J H I H V N O I G I L E R S R  
 V R F W N P L I S P P N X U G  
 R W F P N O I S N E C S A J T  
 Y B F O T U L G L E A H C I M  
 H N X W G M C M D C E C H B W  
 Y T I L I M U H R M Q H B S Z  
 Q E L P A T X A A K V R L J S  
 D P L E F Q M A O R U I N O X  
 D N D Z G E E D E B I S B E F  
 T V O F N N D D U F F T R Z M  
 U N U T X C A G C X F H Y H Q  
 E H O B R S E D H W G A V I T  
 B X I I E E C G A W L C I E T  
 D L H V T M N U R B Z U C T Z  
 G K Q Z E A A E I G Q B N I H  
 W M C L P J N D S U Z O R C A  
 T D I K D K E I T C I Y Y C X  
 H R P U H O P E D T I Y C X A  
 V N A H X L R I A R T B T L T  
 R P Q D W E H G X B O E D Y K  
 M R S C O N O F L H N N H Q R  
 O D C U X R G C M P B X J J Y  
 R J A L Y B X Y S O M B D S M  
 V O O B I U E U R I V J X H H

ASCENSION	CHRIST	ANGEL
ORDINATION	MICHAEL	SACRAMENT
EUCARIST	RELIGION	JAMES
PETER	BEDE	ROGATION
PENANCE	FAITH	HOPE
CHARITY	HUMILITY	