

Ascension of the Lord, Year C

Submitted by lectionaryadmin on Sun, 05/01/2016 - 20:00

Lectionary: 58

Read the Gospel: [Matthew 28:19a, 20b](#)

Gospel Summary

Reminding the disciples of previous prophetic predictions, Jesus quotes the scriptures saying that the Christ will suffer and then rise from the dead. Letting them know that he is about to leave them, Jesus instructs the Apostles to continue the ministry which he began. They are to remain in Jerusalem until they are filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. After delivering these instructions, Jesus raises his hands as in victory and ascends to heaven. The disciples are filled with joy as they return from Bethany to Jerusalem.

Reflection for Families

It is more accurate to think of Jesus' ascension as his being with us rather than his departing from us. As he promises in this scripture, the power of the Holy Spirit is with us to help us even though Jesus is no longer among us in his human form. Jesus remains by our side as a helper. We can show others that Jesus is with us by reflecting Jesus' love. In the same way, we see Jesus in the kindness and love of other people.

Bringing the Gospel Into Your Family

Find the local section of your newspaper today. Pick out people in the news who stand with the first disciples as someone who continues the ministry of Jesus. How do they reveal Jesus' presence by their words and actions? Where do they show joy in what they do? Consider the people in your own family, either immediate or extended. What similar qualities do they have to those in the news?

Discussion Starters

1. Even though I can't see him, I know Jesus is with me when ...
2. I brought the Good News of Jesus to someone when I ...
3. The greatest joy I find in knowing Jesus is ...

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