

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS – 4TH JUNE 2022

THE SECOND GLORIOUS MYSTERY

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD INTO HEAVEN



GO TO CONFESSION

READ THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 1: 6-11

(NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION CATHOLIC EDITION)

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

MEDITATE ON SCRIPTURE FOR 15 MINUTES

REFLECTION

In this time after the Ascension of Our Lord and during the novena of Pentecost we need to ponder the Old Testament connection to Elijah being taken to heaven in a chariot. The second Book of Kings tells us Elijah did not die, but entered heaven alive "in a whirlwind," carried away "in a chariot of fire." Alongside Enoch and Our Blessed Lady and the worthy tradition of St Joseph, he is the only other person to be taken bodily into heaven. The departure of Elijah helped the Church Fathers to see a prefiguration of Our Lord's own Ascension into Heaven alive, after His Death and Resurrection and our own Destination there when, after the Lord comes again, our bodies will be reunited with our soul. We are told "Suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky?'" (Acts 1:10-11). The powerful message of the Ascension makes us realise that looking upward can lead us to forget that He has not left us orphans. As we open our lives to God sanctified by the grace of a sacramental and devotional life it helps us to turn our gaze downward, realising as the Catechism reminds us "that the Lord entered heaven once and for all, to intercede constantly for us as mediator who guarantees for us the permanent outpouring of the Holy Ghost."

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

- What would be "the Kingdom of Israel" that we would hope the Lord to restore in our life today. What are the things separate from Christ?
- How can we purify them in order to be citizens both of earth and heaven for ourselves, our families, for our neighbours (believers or not)?
- How can we prepare ourselves to receive the Holy Spirit promised by Christ?
- Are we earnestly desiring to receive Him like the Apostles gathered with Our Lady in the Upper room?
- Who is the Holy Spirit for me?
- Is He a person to whom I pray and relate as easily as I do with the Father and the Son?
- Can Our Lady help me hasten towards the Lord putting Him at the centre of life?

PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY

PRAYERS OF REPARATION

ACT OF REPARATION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Most Holy Virgin, and Our Mother, we listen with grief to the complaints of your Immaculate Heart surrounded with the thorns placed therein at every moment by the blasphemies and ingratitude of ungrateful humanity. We are moved by the ardent desire of loving you as Our Mother and of promising a true devotion to Your Immaculate Heart. We therefore kneel before You to manifest the sorrow we feel for the grievances that people cause You, and to atone by our prayers and sacrifices for the offenses with which they return your love. Obtain for them and for us the pardon of so many sins. Hasten the conversion of sinners that they may love Jesus Christ and cease to offend the Lord, already so much offended. Turn your eyes of mercy toward us, that we may love God with all our heart on earth and enjoy Him forever in Heaven.

THE ANGEL'S PRAYER

Most Holy Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—I adore Thee profoundly. I offer Thee the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges, and indifferences whereby He is offended. And through the infinite merits of His Most Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of Thee the conversion of poor sinners.



ACT OF CONSECRATION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth, and tender Mother of men, in accordance with thy ardent wish made known at Fatima, I consecrate to thy Immaculate Heart myself, my brethren, my country and the whole human race. Reign over us, Most Holy Mother of God, and teach us how to make the Heart of Thy Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ reign and triumph in us even as It has reigned and triumphed in thee. Reign over us, dearest Mother, that we may be thine in prosperity and in adversity; in joy and in sorrow; in health and in sickness; in life and in death. O most compassionate Heart of Mary, Queen of Virgins, watch over our minds and our hearts and preserve them from the deluge of impurity which thou didst lament so sorrowfully at Fatima. We want to be pure like thee. We want to atone for the many sins committed against Jesus and thee. We want to call down upon our country and the whole world the peace of God in justice and charity. Therefore, we now promise to imitate thy virtues by the practice of a Christian life without regard to human respect. We resolve to receive Holy Communion on the First Saturday of every month and to offer thee five decades of the rosary each day together with our sacrifices in a spirit of reparation and penance. Amen.

THE PARDON PRAYER

My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love Thee! I ask pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee.



I'll sing a hymn to Mary, The Mother of my God,
The Virgin of all virgins, of David's royal blood.
O teach me, holy Mary, a loving song to frame;
when wicked men blaspheme thee,
to love and bless thy name.

O noble Tower of David, of gold and ivory, the Ark of
God's own promise, the gate of heaven to me
to live and not to love thee, would fill my soul with
shame; when wicked men blaspheme thee, I'll love
and bless thy name.

The saints are high in glory, with golden crowns so
bright, but brighter far is Mary, upon her throne of
light. O that which God did give thee, let mortal ne'er
disclaim; When wicked men blaspheme thee, I'll love
and bless thy name.

But in the crown of Mary, there lies a wondrous gem,
as Queen of all the Angels, which Mary shares with
them, no sin hath e'er defiled thee, so doth our faith
proclaim; when wicked men blaspheme thee, I'll love
and bless thy name.

John Wyse (1825-98)

REGINA CAELI

Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia. Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.
Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia. Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.
V. Gaude et laetare, Virgo Maria, alleluia. R. Quia surrexit Dominus vere,
alleluia.

Come, Holy Ghost, Creator, come,
from thy bright heavenly throne,
come take possession of our souls,
and make them all thy own.

Thou who art called the Paraclete,
best gift of God above,
the living spring, the living fire,
sweet unction and true love.

Thou who are sev'nfold in thy grace,
finger of God's right hand
his promise, teaching little ones
to speak an understand.

O guide our minds with thy blest light,
with love our hearts inflame;
and with thy strength, which ne'er
decays, confirm our mortal frame.

Far from us drive our deadly foe;
true peace unto us bring;
and through all perils lead us safe
beneath thy sacred wing.

Through thee may we the Father
know, through thee th' eternal Son,
and thee, the Spirit of them both,
thrice-blessed Three in One.

All glory to the Father be, with his
co-equal Son:
the same to thee, great Paraclete,
while endless ages run.

*Ascribed to Rabanus Maurus (776-856) tr
Anonymous*

ATTEND HOLY MASS AND MAKE A COMMUNION OF REPARATION