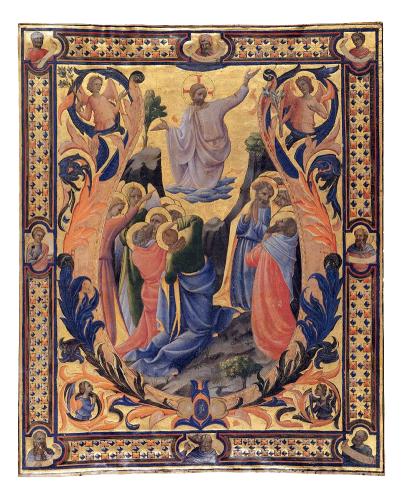
st mary's catholic charch greenville, south carolina



the ascension of the lord 21 may 2023

Entrance Antiphon

Acts of the Apostles 1.11

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.

Entrance Hymn

Rejoice, the Lord is King



Penitential Act

Confiteor

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

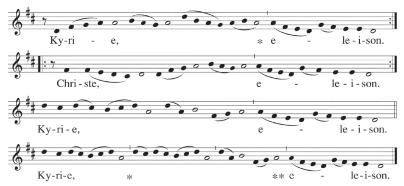
All strike their breast, saying:

through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;

therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Priest May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

People Amen.



Kyrie

Music: Vatican Edition VIII; acc. by Richard Proulx



Gloria •••••• Gló-ri - a in ex-cél-sis De - o. Et in ter-ra pax ho-mí-ni-bus • • • 0 bo-nae vo-lun-tá - tis. Lau-dá - mus te. •••• • • • - - - 0 Be-ne-dí-ci-mus te. A-do-rá mus te. Grá-ti - as á - gi - mus ti - bi Gló-ri - fi - cá-mus te. pro-pter ma-gnam gló-ri-am tu-am. Dó-mi-ne De-us, Rex cae-lé - stis, De-us, Pa-ter om - ní - po - tens. • • • • • • • • • • • • Dó-mi-ne Fi-li u - ni - gé-ni-te, Je - su Chri-ste. Dó-mi-ne De-us, A-gnus De- i, Fí-li-us Pa - tris. Qui tol-lis pec-cá-ta mun - di, mi-se-ré • • • • - re no-bis. • • • • • • • • • . • Qui tol-lis pec-cá - ta mun - di, sú-sci-pé de-pre-ca-ti - ó -stram. Qui se-des ad déx-te-ram Pa-tris, nem no 0 mi-se-ré-re no - bis. Quó - ni - am tu so - lus San-ctus. *********** • • ò Tu so-lus Dó - mi - nus. Tu so-lus Al - tís - si-mus, • • • Spí - ri - tu, Je - su Chri - ste. Cum San - cto •••• in gló-ri-a De-i Pa tris. А men.

Collect

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 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."

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



Responsorial Psalm

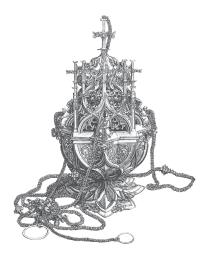
Psalm 47.2-3, 6-7, 8-9



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. *Response*.

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. *Response*.

For king of all the earth is God; sing hymns of praise. God reigns over the nations, God sits upon his holy throne. *Response*.



Second Reading

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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.





Go and teach all nations, says the Lord; I am with you always, until the end of the world. *Response*.

Gospel

Matthew 28.16-20

Deacon: The Lord be with you. **People: And with your spirit.**

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. **People: Glory to you, O Lord.**

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily



Profession of Faith (spoken slowly and reverently)

The Apostles' Creed is the baptismal profession of faith of the Holy Roman Church, which is used in the administration of Baptism and at the renewal of our baptismal promises at Easter. For this reason, we use this text throughout Lent and Eastertide to profess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

Bow profoundly during these two lines:

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.

The Bidding Prayers

The Collection

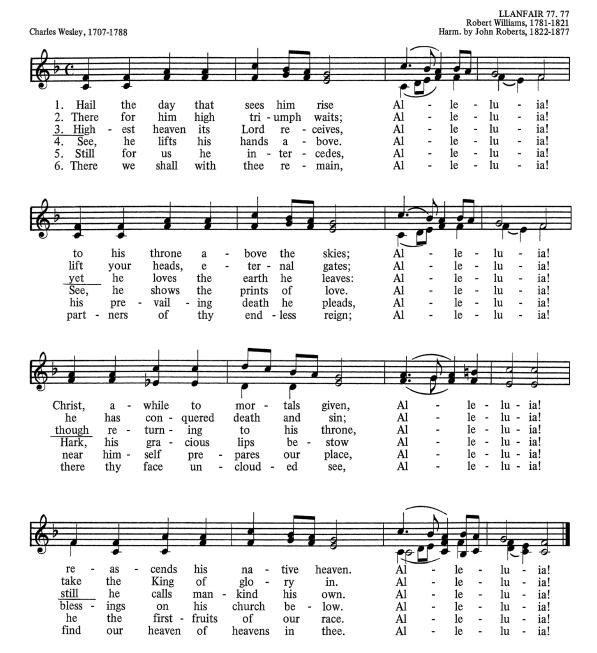
The offering is for the support of the parish, and envelopes for Catholic Communications may also be placed in one of the collection plates at each door of the church.

Offertory Antiphon

God has ascended with shouts of joy, and the Lord with the sound of a trumpet, alleluia.

Offertory Hymn

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise



Offertory Anthem

The Lord Ascendeth Up on High

Praetorius; arr. Clarke

The Lord ascendeth up on high, the Lord hath triumphed gloriously, in power and might excelling; the grave and hell are captive led. Lo! he returns, our glorious Head, to his eternal dwelling.

The heavens with joy receive their Lord, by saints, by angel hosts adored; O day of exultation! O earth, adore thy glorious King! His rising, his ascension sing with grateful adoration!

Our great High Priest hath gone before, upon his Church his grace to pour; and still his love he giveth. O may our hearts to him ascend; may all within us upward tend to him who ever liveth.

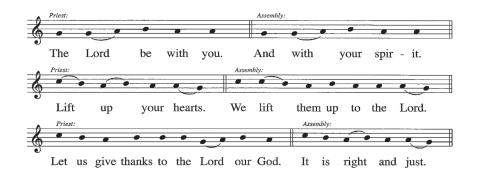


- Priest Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.
- **People** May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

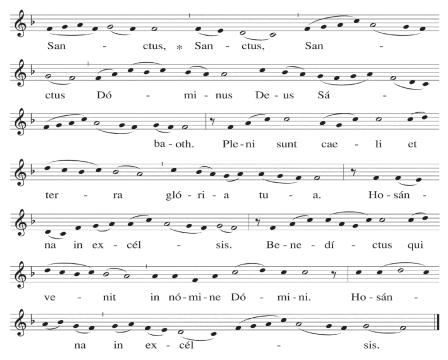
Prayer Over the Offerings

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Preface Dialogue

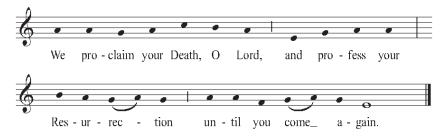


Sanctus



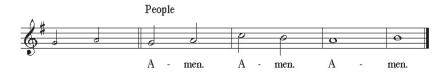
Music: Vatican Edition VIII; acc. by Richard Proulx

Mystérium Fídei (The Mystery of Faith)



The Great Amen

arr. by Judy Franzen



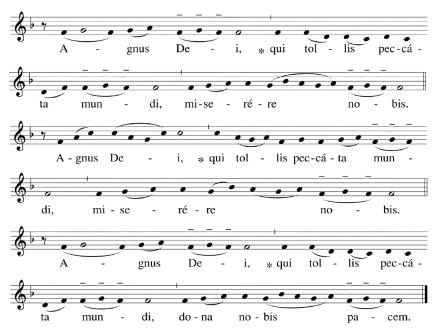


Communion Rite

- *Priest* At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:
- PeopleOur Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
- PriestDeliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.
- *People* For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.
- Priest Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.
- People Amen.
- *Priest* The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People And with your spirit.

Agnus Dei



Music: Vatican Edition VIII; acc. by Richard Proulx



| Priest | Behold the Lamb of God, |
|--------|---|
| | behold him who takes away the sins of the world. |
| | Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb. |

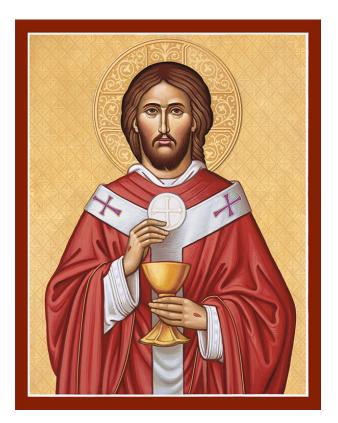
People Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed. Priest Behold the Lamb of God,behold him who takes away the sins of the world.Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

People Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon

Matthew 28.20

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.



Communion Motets

Psalm 92

Anglican Chant; Tune: George Maximillian

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to make music to your name, O Lord Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night, on the ten stringed lyre and the lute, with the murmuring-sound of the harp. Your deeds, O Lord have made me glad; for the work of your hands, I shout for joy. O Lord, how great are your works! How deep are your designs. The foolish man cannot know this and the fool cannot understand. Though the wicked spring up like grass and all who do evil thrive: they are doomed to be eternally destroyed. But you, O Lord are eternally on high. See how your enemies perish; all doers of evil scattered. To me, you give the wild-ox's strength; you anoint me with the purest oil. My eyes looked in triumph on my foes; my ears heard gladly of their fall. The just will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just; in him my Rock, there is no wrong.

From the Rising of the Sun

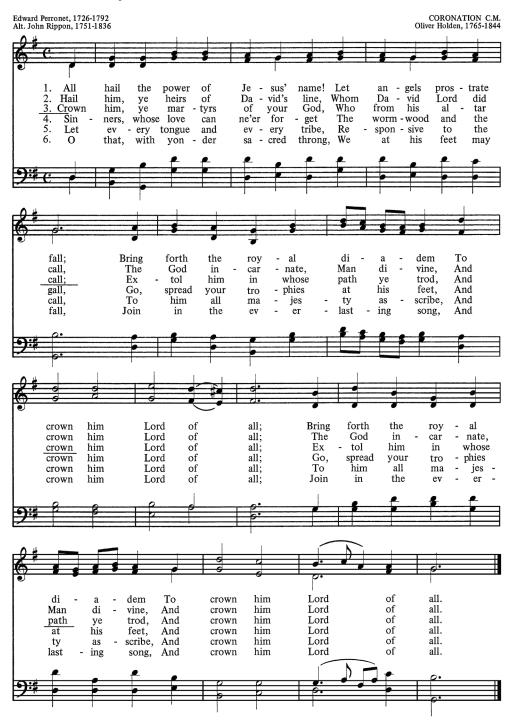
F.A. Ouseley

From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same, Thy name shall be great among the heathen. And in every place incense shall be offered up unto thy name. For thy name shall be great among the heathen. Thus saith the Lord.



Communion Hymn

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name





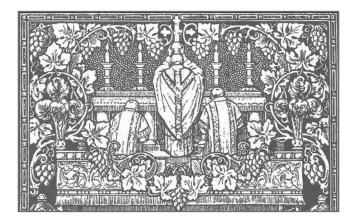
Priest The Lord be with you.

People And with your spirit.

Priest May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*People* Amen.

DeaconGo in peace.PeopleThanks be to God.

During Mass at St Mary's, the priest and people face the same direction at the altar, a custom that was once universal in the Catholic Church but is now rare in the celebration of the modern liturgy. For an explanation of this practice, please visit our parish website, <u>smcgvl.org</u>, and look in the section called *Parish Links* for the essay entitled *Facing East to Pray*.



Page one: Lorenzo Monaco. Antiphonary Codex Cor. 3, folio 59. (c. 1410).
Page eleven: Fra Angelico. The Last Judgment (detail). (c. 1435).
Page thirteen: Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration Chapel, Clyde, MO.
Page seventeen: Fra Angelico. Christ Glorified in the Court of Heaven. (c. 1420).

from the office of readings for the ascension of the lord

Today our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with him. Listen to the words of the Apostle: *If you have risen with Christ, set your hearts on the things that are above where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God; seek the things that are above, not the things that are on earth.* For just as he remained with us even after his ascension, so we too are already in heaven with him, even though what is promised us has not yet been fulfilled in our bodies.

Christ is now exalted above the heavens, but he still suffers on earth all the pain that we, the members of his body, have to bear. He showed this when he cried out from above: *Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?* and when he said: *I was hungry and you gave me food.*

Why do we on earth not strive to find rest with him in heaven even now, through the faith, hope and love that unites us to him? While in heaven he is also with us; and we while on earth are with him. He is here with us by his divinity, his power and his love. We cannot be in heaven, as he is on earth, by divinity, but in him, we can be there by love.

He did not leave heaven when he came down to us; nor did he withdraw from us when he went up again into heaven. The fact that he was in heaven even while he was on earth is borne out by his own statement: *No one has ever ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man, who is in heaven.*

These words are explained by our oneness with Christ, for he is our head and we are his body. No one ascended into heaven except Christ because we also are Christ: he is the Son of Man by his union with us, and we by our union with him are the sons of God. So the Apostle says: *Just as the human body, which has many members, is a unity, because all the different members make one body, so is it also with Christ.* He too has many members, but one body.

Out of compassion for us he descended from heaven, and although he ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in him by grace. Thus, no one but Christ descended and no one but Christ ascended; not because there is no distinction between the head and the body, but because the body as a unity cannot be separated from the head.

- From a sermon by Saint Augustine, bishop (b. 354; d. 430 AD)

* * * *

from the pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

Holy Scripture tells us that the Lord Jesus returned to the glory of his Father forty days after his Resurrection, and for that reason, the Church traditionally celebrates the Ascension on the Thursday after the Sixth Sunday of Easter — forty days after Easter Sunday. In recent years, however, the liturgical commemoration of the Ascension has been transferred in many places from the proper Thursday to the Seventh Sunday of Easter, and that is why we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ today.

This mystery of faith does not mean that the Lord was merely taken from our sight to continue in space and time as we know them while simply being in another place; rather, Christ the Lord in his Ascension transcended the created universe altogether, including the created realities of time and space. But in transcending the created universe, the Lord Jesus did not abandon his Church or leave us comfortless. Even as Christ gave us the Great Commission to spread the Gospel to the ends of the earth and celebrate the sacraments for the salvation of souls, he also promised to send the Holy Spirit of truth to be our teacher, guide, and consoler, and the coming of the Spirit was accomplished and manifested 50 days after Christ's Resurrection, a mystery which we will celebrate next week on the great Solemnity of Pentecost. Christ's Ascension and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit are the very conditions for the possibility of this time of the Church in which we are called to share in the sublime work of bringing the whole human race to know, love and serve the living God, and the Savior remains with us in Word and Sacrament to sustain us in that mission.

In describing the final moments of the Lord Jesus with the Apostles, St Matthew candidly admits that even forty days after the Resurrection, confusion remains: "And when they saw him, they worshipped him, but some doubted." These doubts, however, were resolved by the solemn revelation of the divine nature and glory of the Son of Man: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..." And twenty centuries later we are still laboring to fulfill the Great Commission, which begins with comprehending the majesty of this sacred mystery of faith. In the Roman Missal, the first Preface of the Ascension speaks to us of the sacred mystery of Christ's Ascension in these words:

"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 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."

Father Newman