

For Our Household, How Are We the Gospel Message?

Feast of the Ascension, May 24th, 2020

CALL TO THE FEAST

All: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

(You may begin by singing a song together.)

Leader: It is our desire and response to your love that brings us to give you thanks today. Creator God, your bountiful gifts we come to know both on earth and in the heavens. Your gifts sustain us both physically and spiritually, as individuals and in community

Leader: Your Word created the world.

All: Thank you, Source of Life!

Leader: Your design and harmony we see in Creation is the fruit of your Word.

All: Thank you, Incarnating Word!

Leader: You gave us the same Word made flesh as Mediator.

All: Thank you, Word Made Flesh!

Leader: Jesus has spoken your words to us and called us to follow him.

All: Thank you for your call!

Leader: Jesus is the way that leads us to you.

All: Thank you for walking with us!

Leader: Jesus is the truth that sets us free.

All: Thank you for opening our eyes to see you!

Leader: Jesus is the life that fills us with gladness.

All: Thank you, Source of Life!

Leader: Through Jesus you continue to gather people of all nations, race, tribes and cultures.

All: Open our eyes to see your face in everyone we encounter!

Leader: You made all of us into one family for the glory of your name.

All: Thank you for our family!

Leader: You redeemed all of us by the Blood of his Cross.

All: May our witness heal others!

Leader: You signed us with the seal of the Spirit in Baptism and Confirmation

All: as well as in every moment you break into our awareness and we are inspired to respond to other people's needs as you would. Amen!

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD:

Today's Gospel is found in [Matthew 28:16-20](#). For today's complete Readings [click here](#).

Each of the Readings can be read or simply read the Gospel.

**While someone reads the Scripture(s), listen well.*

*Be aware of the image being painted, or the story being told. Does the story or the image call to mind anything similar in your own life or experience?**

After the reading, share your impressions of the reading (s) with each other:

- ✓ Tell of a time that you were excited about something – but then doubted that it was real.*
- ✓ How have you been a source of comfort or hope in the life of another? Who has been that for you? Was it a word? ...or an action that made you feel safe or accepted? How's that work?*
- ✓ How is Baptism more than the pouring of water, or the immersing in water and the words being spoken? In what ways can we immerse ourselves and others in the Baptismal Water each Day? Besides in Catechism "class," how do we "teach" and learn the way of the Gospel?*

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SHARING THE FEAST

Creator God, Source of All Life, we gather in our household (*present to each other as well as at a distance*) to remember and celebrate the Life, Teaching, Death and Resurrection of Jesus, your Son.

We long to be gathered again with our parish community to share the Bread of life and the Cup of Salvation. But since we are separate from the community now, know of our desire to receive you in the Sacrament. Recognize our desire as we break the bread of your Word and the bread of our table. Recognize that, as we drink (*water, wine, other*) symbolically, we seek to quench our spiritual thirst by opening ourselves to your presence in one another.

The feast can be a loaf of bread (rice-cakes, chapati, naan, pita, tortilla, oatcakes, sweet bread, baguette, etc.) and a glass/cup (or individual glasses) of (wine, water, cider, grape juice). The bread and the wine are passed to one another. Each person serving the individual next to him or her.

PRAYER OF THANKS AND PRIASE

All: We thank you for the leadership of Francisco our pope and for the pastoral ministry of (Arch)Bishop *N*.

Leader: Keep them safe and healthy.

All: We ask your animation in the life and ministry of our pastor *N*, and the Deacon(s) *N, N*, who serve our larger faith community.

All: We see you in and thank you for our family,

Leader: both near and far.

Leader: You teach us the value of community and being common for each other

All: in our friends and in our neighbors – people we know people we are yet to meet.

All: May we learn to understand and respond to the signs of the times and live in the light of faith, **Leader:** being devoted in knowing and serving the Gospel.

All: Open our eyes to the needs of all.

Leader: By their grief and sharing their pain **All:** may we help heal division and strife.

Leader: By sharing their joy and hope, **All:** may we bring the good news of salvation.

All: We remember the people who have died in this pandemic.

Leader: May they be in your Peace

Leader: For what else do we pray:

Conclude with the Our Father.

Leader: Peace be with you all!

All: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

(You may end by singing a song together.)