Ascension of the Lord — May 24, 2020

From the Desk of Fr. Leo

Today we celebrate the exaltation of Christ to the very throne of God. What a climax of the mortal life of the Savior! He came to the world a weak babe nursed by a loving mother, and laid in a sheep's manger. For years he worked at the carpenter's bench and everyone took him for the son of Joseph, the carpenter. Then, in his public life, he mingled with the crowd, healed their ailments, taught them about the reign of God, and they disputed as to who he might be. He let himself be crucified like a common criminal, and they mocked him to the end.

But today we see the Lord risen from the dead and ascending to the Father's throne on high. There he receives from the Father the rewards so well deserved by a life of obedience and service. Now he speaks as the Conqueror of all the world and the Lord of the universe. In that capacity he imparts the final mandate to his chosen disciples.

Christ the Son of God has come into his own as Son of Man. Now he speaks with the authority of a conqueror of life and death. Now he commands as One who has a cosmic role to play in the entire universe. Over every created intelligence he now exercises complete control. He is seated at the right hand of the Father until the Father puts all things under his feet. The Father has given all things into his hands, and he will come in glory to judge the living and the dead.

He sent his disciples. His disciples are now made the ambassadors to each and every nation. They are to "Christify" them, make them full of the Christlife, disciples like themselves of Jesus of Nazareth, other Christ to serve their fellowmen and women and glorify God. No minority group is to be left out. No partiality is to be shown to color or race, to standards of living or intellectual prowess. All are called to be sons and daughters of God in the one Son: Christ. They are to be baptized, that is, immersed into a new atmosphere, that of the all-holy Trinity. The baptized Christian is related to God as Triune God: children of the Father, brothers and sisters of Christ, holy dwelling places of the Spirit. They belong to God in intimate covenant fellowship with the holy and triune God.

But baptism is not enough. The disciples are to teach the nations to observe all the commands he gave them. With these words, Christ the Risen Lord confers the office of teacher on his ambassadors. This is a privileged role; to spread abroad the Good News of Jesus Christ instructing all of mankind to observe all that Christ revealed to them.

Fr. Leo Alban Asuncion

Though we are not able to meet together during this week, please keep these intentions in your personal prayers, as Father will continue to include them in his private masses.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tues.	**May 26**	**N/A**
Braden Banaga (3rd birthday)		Grandparents
Wed.	**May 27**	**N/A**
Living Memorial		
Thur.	**May 28**	**N/A**
Special Intentions		
Fri.	**May 29**	**N/A**
Special Intentions		
Sat.	**May 30**	**N/A**
Joey & Winnie Mariano (Thanksgiving)		Mariano Family
Sun.	**May 31**	**N/A**
People of the Parish		
Port Costa		**N/A**
People of the Parish		

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