



INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST *In the Diocese of Plymouth*

Sunday after Ascension

29th of May 2022

The Ascension of Our Lord



The 40 days of the corporal presence of the Risen Lord among His disciples had to come to an end. In the liturgy the Paschal candle, the symbol of His physical presence has been extinguished. The Lord must leave. How much the announce of His departure made the disciples sad! It is the natural effect of love. We suffer from the absence of the loved one. And yet purple is not chosen for Ascension.

His Ascension for us should be one of joy and not of fear. But in order to understand this paradox, of the joy of his departure, we need a key. A spiritual key which will allow us to understand the mystery of the Lord's Ascension.

*I came forth from the Father and entered into the world
Now I leave the world and go to the Father.*

This is the key to the mystery. Behold the Divine word we must meditate. *I came forth from the Father.* The first one is his eternal birth, second his incarnation in time: *and entered into the world*

Exivi a patre: in this is revealed the most profound mystery of His identity. The apostles believed that Jesus was sent by God. But they did not know very well that he came out from God. They began to understand this truth, through these words.

The Lord came forth from God, but not like creatures. Here we touch the cornerstone of the Christian faith. He came forth from God, but not like creation, rather by generation. *Genitum non factum.* He was not made out of nothing. But he was begotten from the very substance of God, and this from all eternity. He is the Son who has the same nature as the Father. *Consubstantialem Patri* from all eternity. He is God because He is born of God, in a spiritual and Divine way.

The Son is the Wisdom of the Father, His almighty word. Through whom he created all things on heaven and on earth. *Per quem omnia facta sunt, qui propter nos homines et propter nostrum salutem descendit de caelis.*

This is the second truth. He came down from heaven. The eternal Son of God became man, and that is him, Jesus Christ. He came into the world when he became one of us, when he

deigned to be born of one of his creatures, the most Blessed of all, the Virgin Mary.

Here we need to understand well, although we said that our Lord came into the world, it does **not** mean that he was not present in the world before. Long before becoming a man, Our Lord was already present in it as God, because the presence of the most holy Trinity filled heaven and earth. So when he comes into the world we have to understand these words in a new way. Coming into the world, for him, means becoming a man. But even in becoming a man, he never left heaven. Yes, he assumed a true humanity and he dwells amongst us, but he never left the bosom of the Father where he remains eternally. So, the son of God who become a man here on earth, remains God with His Father in the highest. What a great mystery!

We know that it was not for his own sake that he came down from heaven, but for our salvation. *Propter nostram salutem*. And so on Thursday it is for us that he ascends into heaven. Because of his Divinity Jesus Christ never departed from His Father But it is in his humanity that Jesus can get closer to His Father.

So the Ascension of Christ into heaven, the Ascension of his humanity into the heavenly glory concerns us all. Because it is as a man that he ascends, as one of the human race. The head of the body which is the church, of which we are all members. We could even say that he is really one of us, placed at the right hand of God in heaven, because in Christ it is our own nature of humanity which is glorified.

That is why we should rejoice at the Ascension of Christ into heaven, because our nature which had once been expelled from paradise, with our first parents, this nature is now in Christ in the

highest heavens. That is why we should rejoice at his ascension into heaven because it is the confirmation of the work of redemption, the complete victory of Christ. Behold the humanity completely healed and glorified by him. But all of this happens in a certain order, first of all, the humanity of Christ himself and then in due time, the humanity of all those who belong to him.

Jesus Christ our head is already in heaven and as members of his body we are called to follow him, and that is why we should rejoice at the ascension of Our Lord into heaven, because he has gone before us to open the way.

So, there is no reason to cry because of Our Lord's ascension to heaven. If we say that he left the world in order to go to the Father, it only concerns His physical presence but he did not abandon us.

Let us not forget the promise he made before ascending into heaven, *I am with you always until the end of time*.

So, he ascends to the father and yet he remains with us – in another manner it is true – Invisible but real.

Let us raise our eyes to heaven because it is our true Homeland, because this is there that we will finally meet the Lord and that we will be able to see him face to face.

We will then contemplate his holy humanity by which he saved us. We will be admitted to the vision of his eternal divinity, this will be our whole essence of happiness in heaven... *per omnia secula seculorum*, Amen.

A Novena of Masses for Fathers

Enrol your loved ones: fathers, grandfathers, uncles, godfathers, teachers, priests or religious brothers, in the Novena of Masses offered by the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest in the Diocese of Plymouth.

The Novena can be offered for the sanctification and salvation of the living as well as for the repose of the souls of those who have gone before us.

The nine consecutive Masses will begin on 19th June.



Lanherne Volunteer Days

Please note the following Volunteer days at Lanherne:

- Monday 23rd of May
- Tuesday 21st of June
- Monday 11th of July
- Monday 8th of August
- Monday 5th of September
- Tuesday 4th October
- Saturday 22nd of October (Apple Harvest)

If these days do not work for you, please consider giving some of your time on another day.

Vigil of Pentecost at Lanherne

Join us on **Saturday 4th of June at 10am** for a High Mass with Canon Tanner and Canon Montjean for the Vigil of Pentecost.

The Sisters of Lanherne are grateful to the Providence of God who supplies their needs through the generous support of the faithful.

Lanherne Nuns

Sort code: 30-98-76

Account: 45742568

Holy Angels

Collections £136.56

Transfers £25

Torquay

Account Name: ICKSP

Account Details: 40-03-33

Account Number: 12333902

Date	Canon Smith	Canon Tanner
	Mass Offered For:	
29	Canon Smith and Abbé Patryk Benefactors	Canon Cristofoli Ronnie Cleator
30	Private Intention	Holy Souls
31	Private Intention	Holy Souls
1	Holy Souls	Private Intention
2	Holy Souls Private Intention	Private Intention
3	Private Intention	Private Intention
4	Private Intention	Private Intention

Rev. Canon Scott Smith
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At Lanherne Convent

Sundays:

8.30am Low Mass

10am Sung Mass

Monday through Saturday:

8am Mass

Thursdays:

8am and 6.15pm Mass

Confession: Saturdays at 3pm

Rev. Canon Scott Tanner, Prior
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At Holy Angels

Sundays:

9.45 -10.15am Confessions

10.30am Mass

Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays:

5pm Adoration (with Confession available)

6pm Mass

Tuesdays & Saturdays:

8.30am Mass

Plymouth: Sundays at 3pm