June 1, 2025

The Ascension of the Lord (C)





## Why Doesn't God Do Something?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

t is said that we never grow up until both parents have died, when we can no longer go home. Yet, for each of us, there may also be a symbolic moment that moves us from childhood into adulthood. It may be achieving financial independence, graduating from school, or moving out on our own. Whatever it may be, we say to ourselves, "I am now grown up." Whenever such moments occur, we feel empowered to shape our lives and our future.

The feast of the Ascension is that sort of marker:
God has empowered us to shape the world in the
image of Jesus. Just as our parents empower us into an
adulthood that contributes to life, it is now God who
empowers us with the very same power by which he
raised Jesus from the dead. It is a power and a presence
by which God makes the world new through us.

There are those who say they no longer believe in God, because if there is a good God, then he would not allow violence, the death of children before their time, and all sorts of evil that mars human life. Perhaps the greater question is not "Why doesn't God do something?" but rather "Why do we not do something?" To pass on the responsibility to God is to abdicate our own responsibility and deny the fact that God continues to empower us as adults and expects us to utilize that power and presence to make all things new.

#### Reflect-

In what ways do I act like an adult?

How is the world a better place because of me?



## St. Agnes • St. Boniface • St. John the Evangelist

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# Seventh Sunday of Easter (C) June 1, 2025

There are similarities in the reports of Jesus' Ascension found in the Synoptic Gospels—Mark, Matthew, and Luke. In each account, Jesus assigns his disciples the task of proclaiming the Gospel to the entire world. There are also notable distinctions. In the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, the disciples are sent by Jesus to baptize as well as to preach. In Luke's Gospel, however, this commission to baptize is absent. Instead, Jesus directs the disciples to return to Jerusalem to await the fulfillment of his promise to send them the Holy Spirit. Curiously, only Mark and Luke actually report Jesus' Ascension into heaven. Matthew's Gospel concludes with Jesus' promise to remain with his disciples forever. Only the Gospel of Mark notes that Jesus ascended to sit at the right hand of God. In noting this, Mark teaches that Jesus' Ascension affirms the glory Jesus received from God after his death and Resurrection.

Those who believe in Jesus will be empowered to do what Jesus himself has done. Already in Mark's Gospel, during his ministry, Jesus sent his disciples out to preach, to heal, and to drive out unclean spirits. Now, they are sent again to do these things and more. From his place with God in heaven, Jesus helped his disciples, and he continues to help us as we try to live as his followers.

### Mass Schedule & Intentions For the week of June 2, 2025

Mon. June 02 6:30 PM SJ NO MASS Tues. June 03 7:00 AM SJ NO MASS Wed. June 04 5:30 PM SA NO MASS Thurs, June 05 5:30 PM SB NO MASS Fri. June 06 7:00 AM SJ NO MASS Sun. June 08 8:00 AM Wally & CeCe Allison † Sun. June 08 9:30 AM SA Pete & Myrtle Pelster † Sun. June 08 11:00 AM SB People of the Parish



Janel Brestel June 1



Mr.. & Mrs. John Beshaler June 4th Mr. & Mrs. Todd Walz June 8th

GI Diocesans, if you are interested in traveling to Rome during the Jubilee year and attending the Noah's Deaconate Ordination, please send Fr. Matthew Nash a message at mnash@aidiocese.org. Additional info will be sent directly to you. Some details: Traveling from 09/29 - 10/07, with flights out of Denver. Land and air cost is \$4,495. There is a lot of walking involved, but it is a pilgrimage after all.

familiar name to Spirit Catholic Radio listeners is coming to Nebraska this June. Catholic speaker, host of "The Dr. Is In" radio show, author, and family therapist, Dr. Ray Guaraldi, will tour the state giving different talks at four stops June 2-5 Find event details and reserve your seats at spiriteatholic addio.com/gray. Tue Jun 3, 2025 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM St. Patrick Catholic Church, Talk: "The Logic of Being Catholic"

Don't Miss Dr. Ray Guaraldi as he tours Nebraska this June!! A

Quotes for Today Saint Boniface (675-754)

"What we ourselves cannot bear let us bear with the help of Christ.

For he is all-powerful, and he tells us: 'My yoke is easy, and my

burden is light."

'Can there be a more fitting pursuit in youth or a more valuable possession in old age than a knowledge of Holy Scripture? In the midst of storms, it will preserve you from the dangers of shipwreck and guide you to the shore of an enchanting paradise and the ever-lasting bliss of the angels."

## Dear Padre,

#### What does the Catholic Church teach about miracles?

Miracles are extraordinary occurrences without natural explanation that manifest the presence and power of God. We believe in miracles "because of the authority of God himself who reveals them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 156).

Christ's multiplication of the loaves is the only miracle

recorded by all four evangelists. He performed many other natural miracles—calming the storm, walking on water—and numerous healings as well—curing the deaf and mute, the woman with a hemorrhage. These signs attest that the Father sent Jesus and "they invite belief in him" (CCC, 548). Moreover, Jesus' miracles "also confirm that the kingdom has already arrived on earth..." ("Dogmatic Constitution on the Church," 5).

Today, God still manifests his presence in the Church through miracles. For example, potential medical healings are rigorously investigated by the Vatican for sainthood causes. Other supernatural occurrences—such as apparitions and eucharistic phenomena—are likewise thoroughly and prudently investigated with caution to maintain the Church's credibility and prevent confusion among the faithful.

To that end, in May 2024, the Vatican updated its guidelines for assessing apparitions, visions, and alleged revelations, and reaffirmed that a bishop cannot rule on the validity of a particular case before the pope formally deems it to be "supernatural" for pastoral value. (Search "Norms for Proceeding in the Discernment of Alleged Supernatural Phenomena" at Vatican.va.)





#### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Do we know how to make ourselves intercessors for others, that is, do we know how to pray for them and bless their lives?... Let us learn this: intercessory prayer, interceding for the hopes and sufferings of the world, interceding for peace. And let us bless with our eyes and our words those we meet every day!

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 29, 2022

#### Monday

June 2 Easter Weekday Acts 19:1-8 Jn 16:29-33

#### Tuesday

June 3 St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs Acts 20:17–27 Jn 17:1–11a

#### Wednesday

June 4 Easter Weekday Acts 20:28-38 Jn 17:11b-19

#### Thursday

June 5 St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 Jn 17:20-26

#### Friday

June 6 Easter Weekday Acts 25:13b-21 Jn 21:15-19

#### Saturday

June 7 Easter Weekday Acts 28:16-20, 30-31 Jn 21:20-25

#### Sunday

June 8 Pentecost Acts 2:1–11 1 Cor 12:3b–7, 12–13 or Rom 8:8–17 Jn 20:19–23 or Jn 14:15–16, 23b–26

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