

**FR.TK.REFLECTIONS ASCENSION. YEAR A 2023.**

**BEYOND LIMITATIONS IN HIS GLORIFICATION:**

In the Holy Rosary we have glorious mysteries, few Sundays back, we celebrated **the first glorious mystery, the Resurrection**. Today we are celebrating the second mystery **the Ascension of our Lord Jesus**.

Our first reading (Acts.1:1-11) describes the Ascension of Jesus into heaven and **his promise to send the Holy Spirit** on his disciples.

The disciples, despite being with him in person, **eating, drinking, walking staying, working, seeing miracles**, the idea of God's kingdom was so far from their mind. They were still thinking of an earthy kingdom hence after his resurrection and appearing to them in different moments, they thought this was the time hence **is it now you will restore the kingdom of Israel (Act.1:6)**. Don't we have such expectations to be fulfilled! In spite of their **unbelief, doubts, difficult in understanding**, Jesus had **trust and confidence in them** and had seen their **potentiality** of what they can accomplish with the assistance and that is **where he wanted and did establish his church among such characters**. He established his church not among the **angels and not in heaven but here on earth among human beings with all their weakness and strong points**. He wants us to continue with that **mission he left among the apostles**, we are the Apostles today in our present world **wherever we are**.

We have that mission and that is the reason he **promised another helper to be with us. Do not leave Jerusalem but wait for the fulfillment of the fathers promise about which I have spoken (Act.1:4) when he comes you will be my witness in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and even to the ends of the world**. He had that project for them and this project is transferred to us to **reach out to the furthest corner of the earth witnessing and evangelizing the Risen and ascended Lord**. We must take the **responsibility and act now** with the tools of **time, talent and treasure** he has accorded to us.

As we meditate of his Ascension, there are truth we must understand, **Ascension is about Jesus Christ ascending to the fathers**

**glory, hence he cannot be captured by any one country, he is lord of all Nations, he is not bound by any one language, he can be reached in any language, he is not owned by any one culture, he is part of all cultures, (He fills the universe in all its parts (Eph. 7:17-23). Every part of the world comes within his *redeeming and healing*.**

Ascension is **not** about Jesus **Absence but a different presence**. He will be with us in a new way **not in person but in faith, his word, sacraments and in prayer**. Hence he gave us the great commission to **spread the gospel**. He is with us in the **redeeming power and love**.

Where Jesus went someday we will join him **I am going to prepare a place for you that will be our destination our eternal home, to join God the father, son and the Holy spirit, Jesus has preceded before us by Ascending**. He is now closer to everyone of us and not limited by **language, culture, political affiliation, time or space**.

Now that he ascended, the farewell command for all is that **(go and preach the gospel to all the nations Mk. 16:15)**.

Jesus has no **body in the world but yours, he has no hands but yours, to raise up the fallen. he has no feet but yours to seek the lost. He has no eyes but yours to see the silent tears of the suffering. He has no ears but yours to listen to the lonely. He has no tongue but yours to speak a word of comfort to the sad. He has no heart but ours to love the unloved**. We have a mission let us not stand **looking up in the sky, we need to Act now**.

As he *ascends*, he is *picking on you the little, known and unknown to do his greatest work on this world. How is your RESPONSE!*

**ASCENSION MEANS THEN JESUS IS GONE FROM OUR SIGHT BUT NOT FROM OUR LIFE.**