

FR,TK.REFLECTIONS ASCENSION: YEAR B-2024,

Recently we celebrated the first Glorious mystery of the Rosary which is Resurrection of our Lord Jesus, after resurrection Jesus ascended into heaven. Today we celebrate the **Ascension**, this is the scriptural foundation of the second mystery of the rosary.

The ascension of our lord is as much about us as about our Lord. It shows us that we are meant to share the **glory of our lord after this short life we have here on earth**. After the resurrection of our lord, he appeared to people women, the apostles, disciples in different moments and circumstances. He was very much aware of what was happening to them after the great scandal of his violent shameful death. He wanted to assure them of his **presence, presence, encourage and strengthen them** ‘Behold I will be with you till the end of time. Don’t we all need that presence of our risen Lord always on our journey here on earth!

There are three basic truths of Ascension, **the fact of triumph and victory over death and sin in resurrection and ascension** can be detected fully and totally. Jesus Christ after his **successful mission** here on earth, he went ahead of us to **prepare a place for us.** “***Am going to prepare a place for you and if I go, I will come for you so that wherever I am you may also be***”(Jn. 14:3-4) This gives us a sense of completion of our earthly life. The second fact of ascension is that ***this world is not our home, we are just passing through.*** It shows us that our final destination is **heaven**, where else the third fact is that his dramatic departure from the apostles is that **his physical public appearance was over until he returns in his Glory.** From now onwards he will be with us in sacraments,

especially in Mass and Eucharist, when they are celebrated. He will be with us in **that upper room of the altar.** His presence this time will be by **believing not by seeing** which is a great article of faith.. He will be **in so many places and times when** mass and sacraments are celebrated. He is not limited-by **time and space, he is omnipotent and omnipresent.** Christ is leaving us with a **mission, just as the father has send me so am sending you, go out to the whole world and proclaim the gospel to all creatures.** He is sending you and me today to *proclaim to all human beings, to be kind and take care of animals, to be kind and friendly to the environment.* How are we doing this during our time? We are called to take the gospel to the remotest part of the universe. This is the final message farewell as he ascended to heaven in their sight, **we are not supposed to stand there in shock gazing upwards, he has already gone, we MUST take charge and action to reach that remote area, drive away demons, don't mind about the culture, language or other challenges. Lay hands on those sick and through his power they will get cured and healed.**

He is telling you now **I have no body on earth except yours, no hands and feet to feed the poor and seek out the lost except yours, no ears to listen to the lonly and magnalised and the homeless except yours, no tongue to comfort the sad and no heart to love the unloved except yours,** are you ready for this mission of the Lord Jesus? That is our mission as we pass through the world focusing on **Ascension to heaven our final destination.**