

# Ascension of the Lord

(Acts, 1.1-11, Ephesians 1.17-23, Matthew 28.16-20)

Theme: You Have A Friend In Heaven!

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus: As we celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord Jesus into heaven, let us always bear in mind that it is for our own good. For our Lord Jesus has assured us that He is going to be with the Father, so that what ever we ask God in prayer, He will be there to present them to the Father and our God.

Although Jesus has gone into heaven, he is still with us. He left His body and blood to us in the Eucharist for our sanctification and salvation. He is also with us by the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Let us remember that our Lord Jesus has called us *friends, brothers and sisters*, and also *His children*. Now that Jesus has gone into heaven to be with His Father, in various moments of trials, temptations, challenges in our lives, let us remember that we have a friend in heaven, in the person of our Lord Jesus to bring our petitions to God. We have a brother in heaven who knows what we are going through now in this world and He is there asking for God's blessings and favours on our behalf.

Hence, beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, this is why our Lord Jesus wants us, his disciples, to be happy that He is ascending to His Father and our Father. So that in those moments in our lives that we need help, friendship, consolation, solutions to our problems and answers to our various needs, let us always bear in mind that as we are praying to God our Father for these blessings we have a *friend, a brother, and our Redeemer, Jesus Christ*, there in heaven with the Father pleading for us. For Jesus promised us, "I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Mt. 28:20)