

COVID CATECHISM PROJECT – 6TH AND 7TH GRADES (May 18 to June 1, 2020)

Dear Students,

The Church is celebrating the Feast of “**Ascension of the Lord**” on Sunday, 24th May. Since we are under lockdown, and there is no hope that we will be having our regular Sunday Mass on that day in the Church but available on the website of our parish through livestreaming www.kalenaagraharachurch.org, I would like to provide you some information on Ascension, with a request that you read, understand and answer well for the questions asked at the end of the page. Your answer sheets should reach me via **WhatsApp** by June 1, 2020.

What is Ascension?

Ascension is an event of Jesus being taken up into Heaven. Jesus lived in this world with his disciples for 40 days after Easter and then he was taken up into Heaven.

The Bible says in **Mark. 16:19**, that “*After the Lord Jesus had talked with them, he was taken up to heaven and seated at the right hand of God.*” **Luke.4:50-53** says “*Then He led them out of the city as far as Bethany, where He raised His hand and blessed them. As He was blessing them, He departed from them and was taken up into heaven.*” The **Acts of the Apostles.1:9-11** says, “*He was taken up to heaven as they watched him, and a cloud hid him from their sight.*”

The Gospel of John has three references to the Ascension of Jesus, mentioned by Jesus himself. **1)** “*No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the son of man*” (John.3:13). **2)** “*What if you were to see the son of man ascending where he was before?*” (John.6:62). **3)** Jesus said to Mary Magdalene after his resurrection, “*Do not hold me, for I have not yet ascended to my father*”. (John. 20:17).

The Ascension of Jesus into heaven is a Mystery of Hope. It’s a hope that where He has gone, we His disciples will follow him one day. Jesus has not abandoned us but promised us that He will always be with us until the end of time. He has gone ahead to prepare a place for us so that we his disciples, may be where He is.

Ascension does not mark the end of Jesus’ relationship with His Church but the beginning of a new way of His relating to the world in and through His Church. This way includes every one of us who now bear His name, we can change the way we view ourselves and live our daily lives.

The Ascension invites us to reflect on who Jesus is, and who we are empowered to become in Him, beginning now and opening up into the life to come. He indeed is the Way, the Truth and the Life (John.14:6). It points to the ongoing plan of redemption for each one of us. It gives us a glimpse of the loving plan of God for the whole of creation.

The Ascension teaches us that the heaven is our real homeland and final destination. We are pilgrims in this world, passengers in transit. We need to travel light and make sure that we collect and cling to only that which we can lead us to eternity. All the material possessions that we grab and the knowledge we grasp, all the good things of life that we hoard rather than share with those “who have not”, all these we will have to leave behind one day. Empty handed we came into this world and empty handed shall we leave it. We need to do load shedding while we are alive rather than be overburdened with loads that we cannot carry in death.

Jesus may have ascended, but the work of his Kingdom continues and He has placed that work in our hands. It is not hard as you might think. Preaching the gospel can be as simple as offering to pray for a struggling friend. Sharing with a neighbor about how God helped you during a tough situation, lifting up the poor can mean a visit to a nursing home, orphanage, increasing your donation to the poor box, taking a stand against sin, praying for people’s conversion, or trying to establish a more peaceful environment in the home and praying daily.

READ THE BIBLE PASSAGES AS MENTIONED ABOVE.

ACTIVITIES

I Answer the following Questions:

1. How many days did Jesus stay on the earth after his resurrection?
2. Who are some of the people that Jesus appeared to in his resurrected body?
3. What instructions did Jesus give his disciples before he returned to Heaven?
4. Why were the apostles staring at the sky?
5. Where did the apostles go after Jesus ascended into heaven?
6. Who was chosen to replace Judas as an apostle?

II Be an artist: draw the picture of the Ascension of our Lord into Heaven. **“Up in the Cloud”** with this title, use, cardboard, crayons, pompons, craft sticks and anything you find in your art box.

THE BEST TWO (2) ART WORKS WILL RECEIVE AN AWARD AND THEIR WORK WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE iCATHOLIC-BULLETIN OF OUR PARISH.

Thank you,

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