SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
16 May 2021

Prelude
Dominica infra Octave Ascensionis    C. Tournemire

The Introductory Rites

Entrance Antiphon
Acts 1:11                    Mode VII

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

Sign of the Cross and Greeting

Celebrant: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Assembly: Amen.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. (or similar)
Assembly: And with your spirit.

Penitential Act

Deacon: You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy.
Assembly: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy.
Assembly: Christ, have mercy.

Deacon: You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: Lord, have mercy.
Assembly: Lord, have mercy.

Glora

Celebrant: Glory to God in the highest,
Assembly: and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

(Choir) Communion Service in G    Francis Jackson
Kyrie eleison; Glory to God

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading    Acts 1: 1-11


In the first book, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught until the day he was taken up, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to
the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for “the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

When they had gathered together they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” He answered them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.”

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
Assembly: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Peter Latona

Psalm 47: 2-3, 6-7, 8-9

Cantor or Choir:
God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All you peoples, clap your hands, shout to God with cries of gladness, For the Lord, the Most High, the awesome, is the great king over all the earth.

God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy; the Lord, amid trumpet blasts. Sing praise to God, sing praise; sing praise to our king, sing praise.

For king of all the earth is God; sing hymns of praise. God reigns over the nations, God sits upon his holy throne.

Second Reading

Ephesians 1: 17-23

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians.

Brothers and sisters: May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him. May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call, what are the riches of glory in his inheritance among the holy ones, and what is the surpassing greatness of his power for us who believe, in accord with the exercise of his great might, which he worked in Christ, raising him from the dead and seating him at his right hand in the heavens, far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion, and every name that is named not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things beneath his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.
Assembly: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Joseph Gelineau

Matthew 28: 19a, 20b

Cantor or Choir:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

v. Go and teach all nations, says the Lord; I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Gospel

Mark 16: 15-20

Deacon: The Lord be with you.
Assembly: And with your spirit.

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.
Assembly: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: “Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned. These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages. They will pick up serpents with their hands, and if
they drink any deadly thing, it will not harm them. They will lay hands on the sick and they will recover.”

So then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God. But they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs.

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.
*Assembly:* Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Homily**

**Profession of Faith**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

*(All bow while saying)*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Universal Prayer**

*Assembly:* Lord, hear our prayer.

**The Liturgy of the Eucharist**

**Preparation of the Gifts and the Altar**

*We invite you to contribute in-person or online as a means of sharing in our ministry at Saint Peter Cathedral. Thank you in advance for your continued support and generosity!*

**Hymn**

*Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise*  
*LLANFAIR*

Hail the day that sees him rise, to his throne above the skies; Christ, awhile to mortals given, reascends his native heaven. There for him high triumph waits; Lift your heads, eternal gates; He has conquered death and sin; Take the King of glory in. Highest heaven its Lord receives, yet he loves the earth he leaves: Though returning to his throne, still he calls the world his own. See, he lifts his hands above. See, he shows the prints of love. Hark, his gracious lips bestow, blessings on his church below.

Still for us he intercedes, his prevailing death he pleads. Near himself prepares our place, he the first fruits of our race. There we shall with him remain, partners of his endless reign. There his face unclouded see, live with him eternally. Alleluia!

**Motet (10:30am)**

*Above All Praise and All Majesty*  
*Felix Mendelssohn*

Above all praise and all majesty, Lord, thou reignest evermore, Hallelujah!

**Orate Fratres**

*Celebrant:* Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.
Ecce Agnus Dei

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

Assembly: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon

Matthew 28:20 Mode I

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, Alleluia.

Communion Procession

Go Into All the World Peter Latona

Go into all the world, and proclaim the Gospel. I am with you always, says the Lord. Alleluia.

Concluding Rites

Blessing and Dismissal

Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle;
be our defense against the wickedness
and snares of the Devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts,
by the power of God,
cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits,
who prowl about the world
seeking the ruin of souls.
Amen.

Recessional

Ricercare on ‘Llanfair’ David Briggs