

NOTE: If your parish celebrates the Solemnity of the Ascension on Thursday, May 13, 2021, then the following Mass Readings will be used on Sunday, May 16, 2021.

May 16, 2021: The 7th Sunday of Easter

First Reading

Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26

Peter stood up in the midst of the brothers —there was a group of about one hundred and twenty persons in the one place —. He said, “My brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand through the mouth of David, concerning Judas, who was the guide for those who arrested Jesus.

He was numbered among us and was allotted a share in this ministry.

“For it is written in the Book of Psalms:

May another take his office.

“Therefore, it is necessary that one of the men who accompanied us the whole time the Lord Jesus came and went among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day on which He was taken up from us, become with us a witness to His resurrection.”

So they proposed two, Judas called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias.

Then they prayed,

“You, Lord, Who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two You have chosen to take the place in this apostolic ministry from which Judas turned away to go to his own place.”

Then they gave lots to them, and the lot fell upon Matthias, and he was counted with the eleven Apostles.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20

R. (19a) The Lord has set His throne in Heaven.

or:

R. Alleluia.

Bless the LORD, O my soul;
and all my being, bless His holy Name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all His benefits.

R. The Lord has set His throne in Heaven.

or:

R. Alleluia.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so surpassing is His kindness toward those who fear Him.

As far as the east is from the west,
so far has He put our transgressions from us.

R. The Lord has set His throne in Heaven.

or:

R. Alleluia.

The LORD has established His throne in Heaven,
and His kingdom rules over all.

Bless the LORD, all you His angels,
you mighty in strength, who do His bidding.

R. The Lord has set His throne in Heaven.

or:

R. Alleluia.

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/

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**May 16, 2021: The 7th Sunday of Easter
(continued)**

Second Reading

1 John 4:11-16

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another. No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and His love is brought to perfection in us.

This is how we know that we remain in Him and He in us, that He has given us of His Spirit.

Moreover, we have seen and testify that the Father sent His Son as Savior of the world.

Whoever acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God remains in him and he in God.

We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us.

God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.

Gospel Reading

John 17:11b-19

Lifting up His eyes to Heaven, Jesus prayed saying: "Holy Father, keep them in Your Name that You have given Me, so that they may be one just as We are one. When I was with them I protected them in Your Name that You gave Me, and I guarded them, and none of them was lost except the son of destruction, in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to You. I speak this in the world so that they may share My joy completely. I gave them Your word, and the world hated them, because they do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. I do not ask that You take them out of the world but that You keep them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. Consecrate them in the truth. Your word is truth. As you sent Me into the world, so I sent them into the world. And I consecrate Myself for them, so that they also may be consecrated in truth."

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NOTE: If your parish celebrates the Solemnity of the Ascension on Sunday, May 16, 2021, then the following Mass Readings will be used.

May 16, 2021: Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

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.”

Responsorial Psalm

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

R. (6) God mounts His throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

or:

R. Alleluia.

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.

R. God mounts His throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

or:

R. Alleluia.

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.

R. God mounts His throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

or:

R. Alleluia.

For King of all the earth is God;
sing hymns of praise.

God reigns over the nations,
God sits upon His holy throne.

R. God mounts His throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

or:

R. Alleluia.

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May 16, 2021: Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord
(continued)

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:17-23

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.

OR:

Ephesians 4:1-13

Brothers and sisters, I, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love,

striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace:

one body and one Spirit, as you were also called to the one hope of your call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, Who is over all and through all and in all.

But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

Therefore, it says:

*He ascended on high and took prisoners captive;
He gave gifts to men.*

What does "He ascended" mean except that He also descended into the lower regions of the earth? The One Who descended is also the One Who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.

And he gave some as Apostles, others as prophets, others as evangelists, others as pastors and teachers, to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of faith and knowledge of the Son of God, to mature to manhood, to the extent of the full stature of Christ.

OR:

Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13

Brothers and sisters, I, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the calling you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace:

one body and one Spirit, as you were also called to the one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all,
Who is over all and through all and in all.

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Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13

(continued from previous page)

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Gospel Reading

Mark 16:15-20

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.

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/