

## THURSDAY MAY 21

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD  
OR EASTER WEEKDAY

*All American provinces, except Boston, Hartford, New York, Newark, Philadelphia, and Omaha, transfer the celebration of the Ascension from Thursday to this coming Sunday. The following prayers and readings are those for the Easter Weekday. If the Ascension is celebrated today in your parish, see the Mass of the Ascension (page 161).*

[ **St. Christopher Magallanes, priest, and Companions, martyrs (1869-1927)** ] Born in Mexico, he worked with the poor and the indigenous people, founding schools and forming agrarian cooperatives. In the 1920s, when the anti-Catholic Mexican government closed all seminaries, he tried to start them but each time was forced to stop. On May 21, 1927, he was arrested on the false charge of promoting armed rebellion. Four days later, he

was executed along with twenty-one diocesan priests and three laymen. Let us imitate his courage to witness to Christ despite difficulties. ●

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*(Cf. Psalm 68 [67]:8-9, 20)*

O God, when you went forth before your people, marching with them and living among them, the earth trembled, heavens poured down rain, alleluia.

### COLLECT

O God, who made your people partakers in your redemption, grant, we pray, that we may perpetually render thanks for the Resurrection of the Lord.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

**READING** (*Acts 18:1-8*)

Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome. He went to visit them and, because he practiced the same trade, stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade. Every sabbath, he entered into discussions in the synagogue, attempting to convince both Jews and Greeks.

When Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul began to occupy himself totally with preaching the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus. When they opposed him and reviled him, he shook out his garments and said to them, “Your blood be on your heads! I am clear of responsibility. From now on I

will go to the Gentiles.” So he left there and went to a house belonging to a man named Titus Justus, a worshiper of God; his house was next to a synagogue. Crispus, the synagogue official, came to believe in the Lord along with his entire household, and many of the Corinthians who heard believed and were baptized.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

(*Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4*)

**R** *The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.*

**OR Alleluia.**

Sing to the LORD a new song,  
for he has done  
wondrous deeds;  
His right hand has won  
victory for him,  
his holy arm. **R**  
The LORD has made  
his salvation known:  
in the sight of the nations  
he has revealed his justice.  
He has remembered

his kindness and  
 his faithfulness  
 toward the house  
 of Israel. R  
 All the ends of the earth  
 have seen  
 the salvation by our God.  
 Sing joyfully to the LORD,  
 all you lands;  
 break into song;  
 sing praise. R

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**ALLELUIA** (See *John 14:18*)

**Alleluia, alleluia.** I will not

leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will rejoice.  
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

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**GOSPEL** (*John 16:16-20*)

**J**esus said to his disciples: “A little while and you will no longer see me, and again a little while later and you will see me.” So some of his disciples said to one another, “What does this mean that he is saying to us, ‘A little

### Today's Good News

**“You will weep and mourn, while the world rejoices; you will grieve, but your grief will become joy” (John 16:20).** » Our future eternal life will be a dynamic loving and joyful relationship with God that will never be taken away from us. And the good news is that this relationship starts now. In this very moment, we can know that we are precious to God, and right now we can give thanks to God, who penetrates every part of our lives. I can miss God’s presence, though, if I don’t take time to be aware of it. The awareness grows in silent prayer and in the realization of God’s guidance in my daily life. I believe this is a basic experience open to all of us. It is God’s gift. All we have to do is take time for it. God will do the rest. **FR. KENNETH GRABNER, CSC**

while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me; and 'Because I am going to the Father?'" So they said, "What is this 'little while' of which he speaks? We do not know what he means." Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Are you discussing with one another what I said, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'? Amen, amen, I say to you, you will weep and mourn, while the world rejoices; you will grieve, but your grief will become joy."

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**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord, together with the sacrificial offerings, so that, purified by your graciousness we may be conformed to the mysteries of your mighty love.

Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

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**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*(Matthew 28:20)*

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

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**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Almighty ever-living God, who restore us to eternal life in the Resurrection of Christ, increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this paschal Sacrament and pour into our hearts the strength of this saving food. Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

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**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

Jesus promises our grief will turn to joy.

● **When and how has my grief been so changed?**

*Jesus, change me by...*