

ASCENSION THURSDAY @ HOME

Ascension Thursday, May 21

Alleluia!

Liturgical Color is **White**

1st Reading Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; 2nd Reading Eph 1:17-23;
Gospel Mt 28:16-20

In the first reading from Acts, Jesus tells his apostles that they will soon receive the Holy Spirit to give them power to be witnesses. We to ask for the Holy Spirit to be with us to help us be strong witnesses of our faith.

The Gospel reading on this day is known as *The Great Commissioning*. As disciples in the world today, this is now our work to carry forth the mission of the Church to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. This is the mission of the Church, the mission of all disciples, and the mission as a family. We *all* have a job to do to share in the mission of the Church!

*Matthew 28:16-20: In this closing scene from Matthew's Gospel, the disciples still have doubts, but as soon as they see Jesus, they recognize him. His message to them is to baptize and teach, inviting all nations to become disciples.

How can we reach out to others, to people "of all nations"?

How is Jesus still with us?

How can we make Jesus alive on earth?

*Schaeffler OP, Sr. Janet May *Gospel: Questions to Ask Your Kids*.

Retrieved from

<https://teachingcatholickids.com/may-gospels-questions-to-ask-your-kids/>

Celebrate @ Home Activities

I've Got A Job To Do by Dandi Daley Mackall is a sweet book for younger children, but reminds all of us the work we do is through our actions and love for Jesus. This book is available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

Today's Psalm is a joyous celebration of victory of a great king. Jesus' victory over death through His Resurrection and Ascension can be celebrated with "claps of hands and cries of gladness", as we sing praise to God. See the playlist below for joyous hymns. Or create your own playlist with favorite praise music.

Just before his ascension, Jesus blessed the disciples. Pray Numbers 6:24-26 together as a way of communicating his blessing to one another. Create a family blessing poster. Bless one another.

Pray the Holy Spirit Novena with the Diocese of Syracuse. Nine days away from Pentecost! Sign up to receive in your email each day or visit syrdio.org. On Ascension Thursday, choose a family intention. Make the nine days till Pentecost a novena, nine days of prayer, to the Holy Spirit asking for the strength to carry out the mission of the Church.

Take a virtual tour of the Ascension Chapel Shrine, Mount of Olives.

[Youtube](#) by Holy Land Franciscans, Ascension Chapel Shrine.

Links for More Ideas and Activities

[YouTube Ascension Day Songs and Hymns Playlist](#) : Sing hymns of praise on this day using this youtube playlist on "Celebrating Holidays"

[Thecraftycrow.net](#) : "Sky Jello" Serve Creative Food: - Check out the heavenly "sky parfaits"



Thanks to the Catechetical Leaders in the Diocese of Syracuse
for sharing these great ideas for families!
Our website RCfaithquest.syrdio.org has many ideas for this holy season!

