

# The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

24 May 2020

Saint Brigid Catholic Church ✱ Johns Creek, Georgia

Rev. Neil Herlihy, Pastor , Celebrant

## Introductory Rites

Introit: *Viri Galilæi*

music by Healey Willan (1880-1968)

*Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? Alleluia! This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Blessing and Sprinkling of Holy Water

✱ Dear brethren (brothers and sisters),  
let us humbly beseech the Lord our God to bless this water  
he has created, which will be sprinkled on us as a memorial  
of our Baptism. May he help us by his grace  
to remain faithful to the Spirit we have received.

Lord our God,  
in your mercy be present to your people's prayers,  
and, for us who recall the wondrous work of our creation  
and the still greater work of our redemption,  
For you created water to make the fields fruitful  
and to refresh and cleanse our bodies.  
You also made water the instrument of your mercy:  
for through water you freed your people from slavery  
and quenched their thirst in the desert;  
through water the Prophets proclaimed the new covenant  
you were to enter upon with the human race;  
and last of all, through water,  
which Christ made holy in the Jordan,

you have renewed our corrupted nature  
in the bath of regeneration.

Therefore, may this water be for us  
a memorial of the Baptism we have received.

Through Christ our Lord.

✠ Amen.

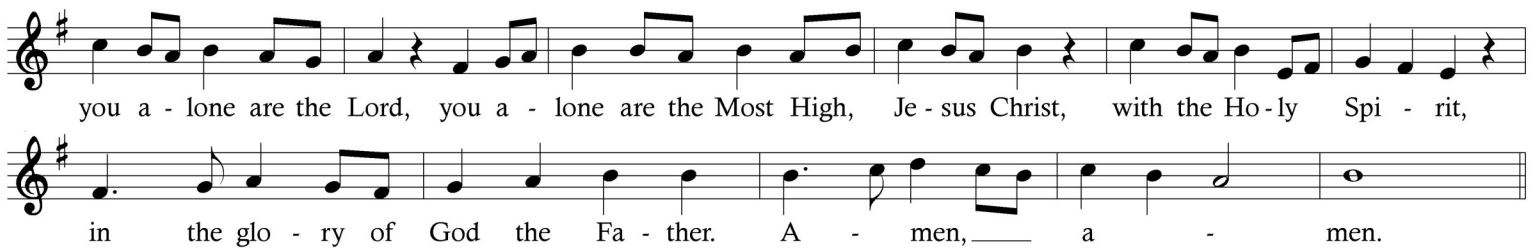
*The Celebrant sprinkles himself and the people with holy water;  
meanwhile, the following chant is sung:*

*I saw water flowing from the Temple, from the right hand side,  
Alleluia; and all to whom this water came were saved and shall  
say, Alleluia, Alleluia.*

✱ May almighty God cleanse us of our sins,  
and through the celebration of this Eucharist  
make us worthy to share at the table of his Kingdom.

✠ Amen.

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to\_ peo-ple of good will. We praise you, we  
bless\_ you, we a - dore\_ you, we glo - ri - fy you, we give you thanks for your great glo-ry, Lord\_ God,  
heav - en - ly King, O God, al - migh - ty\_ Fa - ther. Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly Be - got - ten  
Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son\_ of the Fa - ther, you take a - way the sins of the world: have  
mer - cy on us; you take a - way the sins of the world: re - ceive our prayer; you\_ are seat - ed at the  
right\_ hand of the Fa - ther: have mer - cy on us. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly\_ One,



you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit,  
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men, a - men.

✠ O God, whose Son today ascended to the heavens as the Apostles looked on, grant, we pray, that, in accordance with his promise, we may be worthy for him to live with us always on earth, and we with him in heaven.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
One God, for ever and ever.

℟ Amen.

## 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.”

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 47:2-3, 6-9*



God mounts his throne to shouts of joy, a blare of trum-pets 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. ℟

**Epistle:** *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.

**Gospel Acclamation:** *Matthew 28:19a, 20b*



Al - le - lu - ia, — al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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

**Gospel:** *Matthew 28:16-20*

The eleven disciples went to Galilee,  
to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them.  
When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted.  
Then Jesus approached and said to them,  
“All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me.  
Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,  
teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.  
And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

**Creed**

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)*  
and by the Holy Spirit  
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man. *(all rise)*

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.

Homily

Universal Prayer

# Liturgy of the Eucharist

## Music during the Preparation of the Gifts and Altar

Offertory Chant: *Ascendit Deus*, Mode I

*God goes up with jubilation, with the sound of the trumpet, alleluia. (Psalm 47)*

✠ Pray, brothers and sisters,  
that my sacrifice and yours  
may be acceptable to God,  
the almighty Father.

℟ May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his Name,  
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

✠ 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.

✠ The Lord be with you.

℟ And with your Spirit.

✠ Lift up your hearts.

℟ We lift them up to the Lord.

✠ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

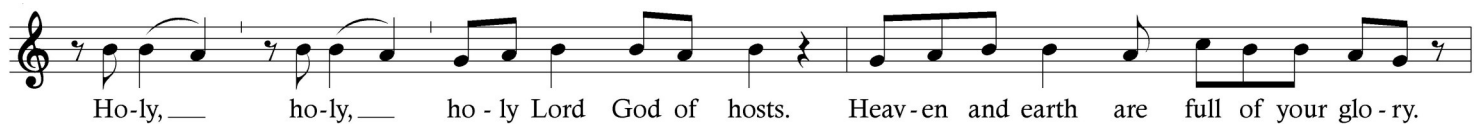
℟ It is right and just.

is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

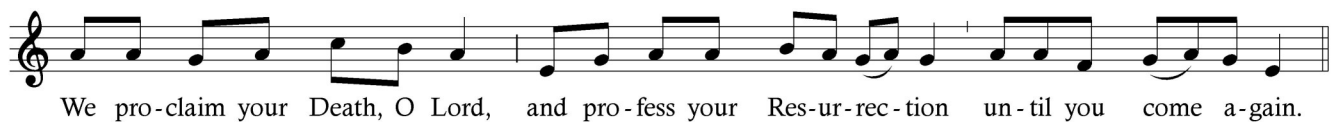
For the Lord Jesus, the King of glory,  
conqueror of sin and death,  
ascended today to the highest heavens,  
as the Angels gazed in wonder.

Mediator between God and man,  
judge of the world and Lord of hosts,  
he ascended, not to distance himself from our lowly state  
but that we, his members, might be confident of following  
where he, our Head and Founder, has gone before.

Therefore, overcome with paschal joy,  
every land, every people exults in your praise  
and even the heavenly Powers, with the angelic hosts,  
sing together the unending hymn of your glory,  
as they acclaim:



✠ The mystery of faith.



✠ Through him, with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.

℟ Amen.

✠ At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

℟ Our Father, who art in heaven...  
...but deliver us from evil.

✠ Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days,  
that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin  
and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope  
and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

℟ For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

✠ Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles:  
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,  
look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church,  
and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will.  
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

℟ Amen.

✠ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

℟ And with your Spirit.

✠ Let us offer each other the sign of peace.



♯  
℟  
A-gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun - di: mi - se - ré - re no - bis.  
A-gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun - di: mi - se - ré - re no - bis.  
A-gnus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun - di: do - na no - bis pa - cem.

✠ 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.

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

### Music during Holy Communion

*As the Celebrant receives the Host, the Communion antiphon is sung.*

**Antiphon:** *Data est mihi, Mode I (Matthew 28:18-19)*

*All power has been given to me in heaven and on earth, alleluia; go therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

### Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there  
and unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You.

℟ Amen.

**Motet:** *O Salutaris Hostia*

Text:

*O Saving Victim, Who expandest the gate of heaven,  
Hostile armies press: Give strength; bear aid.*

Charles Gounod (1818-1893)

*Op. posth.*

## Prayer after Communion

✠ May the gifts we have received from your altar, Lord,  
kindle in our hearts a longing for the heavenly homeland  
and cause us to press forward, following in the Savior's footsteps,  
to the place where for our sake he entered before us.

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

℟ Amen.

## Solemn Blessing

✠ May almighty God bless you, for on this very day his Only Begotten Son  
pierced the heights of heaven and unlocked for you the way to ascend to where he is.

℟ Amen.

✠ May he grant that, as Christ after his Resurrection was seen plainly by his disciples,  
so when he comes as Judge he may show himself merciful to you for all eternity.

℟ Amen.

✠ And may you, who believe he is seated with the Father in his majesty,  
know with joy the fulfillment of his promise to stay with you until the end of time.

℟ Amen.

✠ And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,  
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

℟ Amen.

∇ Go in peace [or similar words of dismissal]

℟ Thanks be to God.

## Recessional Hymn: Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise



1. Hail the day that sees him rise, To his throne a -  
2. There for him high tri - umph waits, Lift your heads, e -  
3. High - est heav'n its Lord re - ceives, Al - le - lu - ia! Yet he loves the  
4. See, he lifts his hands a - bove, See he shows the  
5. Still for us he in - ter - cedes, His pre - vail - ing



bove the skies, Christ, a - while to mor - tals giv'n,  
ter - nal gates, He has con - quer'd death and sin,  
earth he\_ leaves, Al - le - lu - ia! Tho re - turn - ing to\_ his throne,  
prints of\_ love, Hark! his gra - cious lips\_ be - stow  
death he\_ pleads, Near him - self pre - pares our place,



Al - le - lu - ia! Re - a - scends his na - tive heav'n:  
Take the King of glo - ry\_ in:  
Still he calls the world his own: Al - le - lu - ia!  
Bless - ings on his churchbe - low:  
He the first - fruits of our race:



## **Saint Brigid Catholic Church**

Rev. Neil Herlihy, Pastor, Celebrant

Rev. Mr. Henry Hein, Deacon

Music: Jonathan Eason, Director of Music

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