



**16 MAY 2021**  
**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

**INTRODUCTION:**

The Ascension celebrates the return of the Lord Jesus to Heaven. After accomplishing his earthly mission, Christ passes on the responsibility to his disciples to communicate the Good News to the World.

Hence, we also celebrate today “World Communications Day”! Christ awaits our response to be Communicators of His Gospel, using every modern means of communications. Let us pray for the strength of the Holy Spirit to accomplish the marvellous things that Christ intends to bring about through us.

**READINGS:**

**First Reading:** Acts 1:1-11

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

**Second Reading:** Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13

**Gospel:** Mark 16:15-20

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:**

**CEL:** Having ascended to heaven, Jesus is seated at the right hand of his Father to make supplications for us. Let us now place our petitions before him:

**R/- Lord, graciously hear us**

We pray for Pope Francis, Bishops, the clergy and the religious, that committed to the Mission of Christ, they may strive towards the great work of evangelization. (pause). We pray to the Lord...

We pray for the leaders of our country that putting aside political agendas, they may work selflessly to assist the people in their struggle with the Pandemic by making available the required vaccines and medication. (pause). We pray to the Lord...

We pray that we may pledge ourselves on this “World Communications Day” to live the Gospel and communicate it through modern technology and media. (pause). We pray to the Lord...

We pray that strengthened by the Eucharistic Lord at this celebration, we may become fervent and zealous communicators of the Gospel, accomplishing His Mission through our life and example. (pause). We pray to the Lord...

**CEL:** God Our Father, as Christ ascends and sits at your right hand, we set our gaze on him on our pilgrim way of life, so that strengthened by his love, we may accomplish his mission and thus come to receive our reward of life eternal. We ask you this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF FROM THE CORONA VIRUS:**

Almighty and merciful God, who show Your love to all creation everywhere, hear graciously the prayers we make for all those affected by the Corona Virus in various parts of the world.

We come before You asking for an efficacious control of the outbreak, for a healing of those affected, for the victims and their families.

We thank You for blessing the efforts of our research scientists working on the development of a vaccine. We pray that these vaccines will be effective in combating the virus and its mutants, and in controlling the spread of the pandemic. We pray that the vaccine be available for all our people even the poor and those in rural areas.

We pray for doctors, nurses and health workers who are in the frontline of this battle, that they be kept safe and have the strength and courage to continue their heroic efforts.

We pray for the Government and health authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Commission for Liturgy  
Archdiocese of Bombay*