Lectio Divina

➤	**Read and re-read**, out loud and slowly the Gospel	➤	**Pray -** Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition
➤	**Meditate** on reading as being spoken to you , an experience in your life	➤	**Action** – Attitude (Call to change / to act / to do)

May 24th 2020 Feast of the Ascension of The Lord – Year A – Matthew 28: 16 - 20

In this week's gospel we see Jesus preparing for his imminent departure and for a future in which he would be with his disciples in a different way. He would not 'leave them orphans' but send an 'Advocate' to 'be with them forever'. When we read the story of Jesus in the gospels it is not a story of someone outside ourselves but our own story and therefore our stories are sacred.

Do we spend a lot of time and energy projecting notions of God all over the place, away from ourselves? This gospel tells us that God lives in us and loves us. As Christ lives in the Father from whom he is inseparable, so His presence in us unites Father, Son and those who believe in Him. This belief summarises our whole Christian life from our baptism into Christ to our death in Christ. God lives in us, loves in us.

Prayer:

Thank you Lord for your helpful and consoling words in todays gospel "I am with you always even to the end of time". We thank you for the wonderful example of reaching out to all nations shown by Pope Francis in his words and actions reflecting your message to the disciples in today's gospel

Lord forgive us for the times when we did not have the courage to bring the message of Jesus to all nations as he requested because of fear. We did not hear or remember His words that He will be with us always.

Help us Lord as parents, teachers and leaders of church and state not to be possessive of those in our charge. Let us be like Jesus and let them go trusting that whatever good they have learned from us they will bring to others. Where ever they go Jesus is with them.

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