

Sixth Sunday of Easter
24 May 2020
Saint Marcus / Saint Lawrence

Separation for Greater Glory

God's power is made perfect in weakness. These words given to us by Saint Paul as the Words of God to him when he was suffering from what he called a, "Thorn in the Flesh" are good words to help us understand the mystery of today's feast of the Ascension. The Lord goes to heaven not to leave us behind but to truly bring us greater Glory through his power.

It is easy for us to be good to our friends and our family when we are with them. Selfishness usually can grab a hold when we are away from them and we start to focus more on ourselves. The Apostles had the privilege of the Lord's company for some forty days. It was of course easy for them to have faith when Jesus, risen from the dead, visits them from time to time. While they still had doubts Matthew says and Jesus leaves them? Well yes! It is a quantitative glory thing. How so? Well He knows that to leave them, and us, behind he will continue to provide his grace but from the realm of heaven through the Holy Spirit. This will bring greater glory for God and for us because of the separation. It also will have the effect of deepening desire within our hearts and souls for him because we can't see him and be with him literally in the flesh as he had been here on earth.

The Ascension then isn't an opportunity for self-pity and sadness but rather a feast of hope and longing! Longing for that great day, when Christ will assume us into heaven; just as he went to heaven, and just as he had Assumed Enoch, Elijah, and Mary into heaven. What will that ride be like? To be taken amid the halls of heaven? With all the Saints looking on as we make our way to the glorious throne of God Where Christ seated with him will welcome us with those glorious words: "Well done God and faithful servant" You preached and taught based on your friendship with me! "Enter now my Joy!"