

The Ascension of the Lord – Year A

This Sunday, we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension; that is, the elevation of Christ into heaven by His own power in the presence of His disciples the fortieth day after His Resurrection.

Although the place of the Ascension is not distinctly stated, it appears from the Acts of the Apostles that it was Mount Olivet. Today, the site is marked by an octagonal structure which encloses the stone said to bear the imprint of the feet of Christ.

In disappearing from the disciples' view "He was raised up and a cloud received Him out of their sight" (Acts 1:9), and entering into glory He dwells with the Father.

As regards the present state of the risen body of Jesus, the *Catechism* teaches: "Christ's Ascension into heaven signifies his participation, in his humanity, in God's power and authority. Jesus Christ is Lord: he possesses all power in heaven and on earth. [...] As Lord, Christ is also head of the Church, which is his Body. Taken up to heaven and glorified after he had thus fully accomplished his mission, Christ dwells on earth in his Church" (668-669).

As a seminary professor used to tell us, thanks to the Ascension: "C'è spazio per noi nella Trinità"; there is now space for us human beings in the Holy Trinity. For that, we give thanks to God.

Father Frei



Chapel of the Ascension, 29 Dec. 2017