

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** (or a hymn) Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (Ps 46)

**ANTIPHON:** God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

**RESPONSE:** God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

**Or**

Alleluia.

**LECTOR:** All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. **R.**

**LECTOR:** God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. **R.**

**LECTOR:** God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. **R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** (or a hymn) Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

**TODAY'S READINGS** Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23; Matthew 28:16-20

**NEXT WEEK** (Pentecost Sunday, Year A) Acts 2:1-11; Ps 103; 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23

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## Aligning our own vision with Christ



17 May 2026 Ascension Year A

I once watched Andrew Manchini, an Australian who appeared on the TEDx Talk at Hobart High School when he discussed the significance of aligning one's corporate vision with one's personal vision.

He explains that effective vision statements will guide our decision-making, strategy, and alignment in business. He connects this concept to storytelling and encourages people to create their own vision statements to live impactful and meaningful lives.

As I reflect on this week's gospel, I was taken to that particular TEDx Talk. Jesus invited his disciples to see if they had a vision in their lives. He invited them not just to participate in Jesus' vision but to create their own vision, and to align it with his vision to make disciples of all nations.

Having a personal vision is important. A personal vision is crucial because it provides clarity, direction, and motivation to align actions with the long-term goals, meanings, and values. If we align our vision statement with Christ's vision, and together act on our vision statement effectively, everything in our communities and institutions becomes aligned, leading to a more cohesive and purpose-driven environment that reflects our shared values and goals.

Our vision helps inform the decisions we are making every day. We all know that it is

not enough for us to take Christ to heart. We are called to action. We have to be another Christ for others. This is why we are called to be clear in our vision of life, align it with Christ, and share it with others. In moments when we say the creed or express our prayers to Christ, we actually accept Christ in our lives, his love, values, hopes, dreams, and expectations.

When Jesus said to the disciples to go and baptise people in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Jesus actually asked his disciples to share with people worldwide. And he wants his disciples to share with the world that he never comes alone, but as one of the Trinity. This perfect communal relationship of the Son with the Father and the Spirit is visionary and empowering for him and for his disciples to spread the good news of the kingdom of God.

As we celebrate the ascension of Jesus, we remember that he remains with us in the Spirit. It is in this spirit of Jesus that we are called to make the world a flourishing community centered in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

We pray that we may always find ways to align our vision and mission in life with the vision and mission of Christ, a vision that is Trinitarian and community-oriented. In whatever we do, may we remember Jesus, and he will show us the right way. Amen.