

**The Seventh Sunday of Easter****Year B****The Solemnity of the Ascension of The Lord**

Sunday, May 13, 2018

Readings: 1) Acts 1.15-17, 20a, 20c-26 2) 1 John 4.11-16 3) John 17.11b-19

**Sunday Liturgy**

The focus for today's Mass is: Holy Father, keep them in your name.

In today's Gospel, Jesus prays for his disciples as they go out into the world – that they be protected and unified, and filled with his joy. Our heavenly Father wishes the same for us as we face each day striving to be his faithful disciples.

In the reading from Acts, we learn that the first order of business after the Ascension is for the Apostles to pick a replacement for Judas; Matthias is chosen. In our second reading, John reminds us that if we love one another, God remains in us. Jesus' farewell prayer in the Gospel before his impending death is for his disciples to be one as he and the Father are one.

**GENERAL INTERCESSIONS****PRIEST:**

**United in our common faith in Jesus Christ,  
we place before the Father our needs and the needs of the world.**

For bishops, as successors to the Apostles,  
may they be protected and unified and filled with the joy of Christ,  
We Pray to the Lord.

For those with civic responsibilities,  
may the truth and justice of God guide their decision-making,  
We Pray to the Lord.

For all those sick in body, mind or spirit,  
may they find healing and hope in Jesus on their way to recovery,  
We Pray to the Lord.

For all those who have died;  
may they praise God forever in the heavenly kingdom with the saints and angels,  
We Pray to the Lord.

For all of us gathered here,  
may we strive to be one in heart and mind as Jesus and the Father are one,  
We Pray to the Lord.

For our own personal intentions, .....

We Pray to the Lord.

**PRIEST:**

**Gracious God,  
we give you thanks and praise for all you have given us.**

**Help us to be the faithful people you call us to be.**

**We ask this through Christ our Lord.**