



Prayer Leader's Guide

Guide #17 - THE ASCENSION

We use *The New Catholic Picture Bible*

by Father Lawrence Lovasik

Today's Bible Story is on Page 225

**Be sure to have a copy of the Holy Hour program*

EXPOSITION

- *Please stand. When Father/Deacon opens the tabernacle, we will kneel and sing together **O Saving Victim**, found on the first page of our program.*

GREET JESUS

- *Jesus, we are very happy to be here to make our visit with You. Thank You for always being here for us in the tabernacle and now being exposed on the altar in the beautiful monstrance. (long pause)*

OPENING PRAYERS

- *Jesus, we begin our time with You by calling upon our Holy Guardian Angel and all the many - myriads and myriads of Holy Angels here with us right now. We ask the Holy Angels to help us adore You. (pause) Together we pray: **Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here. Ever this day be at my side, to light, to guard, to rule and to guide. Amen.***
- *We also call upon the mighty Prince of the Heavenly Host, Saint Michael. We ask Saint Michael to protect our visit with You by helping us banish all distractions. Jesus, we want to keep our mind and our heart only on You. Together we pray: **Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen. (long pause)***
- *Jesus, we know that Your Sacred Heart is on fire with love for each one of us. (pause) There on the altar, Your Sacred Heart is beating with love for us as You continually pour out Your love upon us. (long pause) Jesus, we know that our beautiful Blessed Mother Mary loves You more than anyone who ever lived. We want her to help us love You more and more. We want our hearts to be on fire with love for You, just like Mother Mary. (pause) Jesus, just as You entrusted Yourself to Mother Mary at Your Incarnation - when You, God, became Man - we also want to entrust ourselves to her as we now pray the Prayer to Our Blessed Mother together: **My Queen and my Mother, I give myself entirely to you; and to show my devotion to you, I consecrate to you this day my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my heart, my whole being without reserve. Therefore, good Mother, as I am your own, keep me, guard me as your child. Amen. (pause)***

**OPENING
PRAYERS**
continued

- *Finally, Jesus, with all the love in our hearts, we offer You our 100,000 Heartbeats Prayer. Together we pray: Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, truly present on the altar in the little white Host, I love You! I love You with all my heart and I know You love me with all Your Heart. Jesus, my heart beats around 100,000 times a day. I want each one of my heartbeats to say: Jesus, I love You! Jesus, I love You! Jesus, I love You!*
(very long pause)

**BIBLE
STORY**

- *Jesus, we will now prepare our hearts to offer You our Rosary decade. We do this by reading a Bible story. I invite the boys and girls to now sit and take out their Bibles. (pause) We open up to page 225. (pause) Let's take a look at the picture. (pause) (In these Bible stories, the words in some have been slightly changed in the parts directly relating to Jesus. An example: "This is called the mystery of the Incarnation." You would say, "This is called the mystery of Your Incarnation." The goal is to talk to Jesus instead of about Him. If you read directly from the New Catholic Picture Bible, it is easy to take a black pen and mark the parts that need adjusting. It is a simple change from the third person to the second person. This important adjustment helps the children understand that Jesus is truly present before them in the Blessed Sacrament).*
- *Jesus, forty days after the Resurrection, Your followers met on a mountain in Galilee. More than five hundred people were gathered at this time; and there You showed Yourself to them all. You said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and behold, I am with you all days, even unto the consummation (the end) of the world." Then You said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus the Christ should suffer, and should rise again from the dead on the third day; and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. And you yourselves are witnesses of these things. And I send forth upon you the promise of My Father. But wait here in the city, until you are clothed with power from on high." (pause) After You had given Your last instructions to Your apostles and disciples, You lifted up Your hands to bless them. And while You were blessing them, You began to rise in the air, higher and higher, until a cloud covered You and the disciples saw You no more. While they were looking up toward heaven, they found two men, like angels, with shining garments, standing by them. These men said, "You men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up into heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you, shall come again from heaven to earth, as you have seen Him go up from earth to heaven!" Then the disciples were glad. They worshipped You, their risen Lord Jesus, now gone up to heaven; and they went again to Jerusalem. And there they remained, praising and giving thanks to God, and praying for the coming of the Holy Spirit. (long pause)*

ROSARY DECADE

- *Boys and girls, it's time to offer our Rosary decade. Please take out your Rosary and kneel.*
- *Find the Crucifix on the end of your Rosary beads. Let's give the Crucifix a kiss. (*Kiss the Crucifix*)*
- *Thank You, Jesus, for dying on the Cross for us.*
- *We make the Sign of the Cross together: **In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.***
- *Now let's find the second decade on our Rosary beads.*
- *Jesus, with all the love in our hearts, we offer You the second Glorious Mystery, Your Ascension into Heaven. We offer this decade for missionaries, especially priests sent by the Church to preach the Gospel and administer the Sacraments in far away places. We join our prayers with those of Saint Francis Xavier and Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, the Patron Saints of Missionaries. (*Pause*)*
- *Boys and girls, I'll say the first part of the prayer, you say the second. (*Pause*)*
- *(Prayer leader) **Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. They will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.***
- *(Boys and girls) **Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.***
- *(Prayer leader) **Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.***
- *(Boys and girls) **Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen. (2 times)***
- *Jesus, we now come to our very last Hail Mary. We pause and call this one our Golden Hail Mary. Our Golden Hail Mary is when we tell You our own special intentions. If it is important to us then it is important to You because You don't want us to be worried about anything. Jesus, we will now tell You from our hearts what we need You to help us with. (*very long pause*) Jesus, we know that You are going to answer each of our prayers in the very best way. Sometimes we might not think it is best but You know all things from the beginning to the very end so we trust that You are always working things out for our very best.*
- *Boys and girls, together we pray: **Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.***
- *Boys and girls, let's bow our heads down low. Our body shows what is in our hearts and that is adoration for God. (*pause*) We adore God who is truly before us on the altar. (*Very long pause of adoration silence*) Together we pray: **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.***
- *Let's come back up and look at Jesus on the altar. (*Pause*) We will now pray the prayer that our beautiful Blessed Mother taught the three children at Fatima. She asked us to pray this prayer at the end of every Rosary decade.*

**ROSARY
DECADE**
continued

- *Jesus, we know this must be very important since You sent our beautiful Mother Mary from Heaven to teach us this prayer.*
- *Boys and girls, let's hold out our hand toward Jesus on the altar and offer Him this very special prayer. Together we pray: **O my Jesus, forgive us our sins. Save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to Heaven, especially those most in need of Thy mercy. Amen.***
- *Now let's find the Crucifix again at the end of our Rosary beads and give the Crucifix one more kiss. **(Kiss the Crucifix)** Together we make the Sign of the Cross: **In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.***
- *Boys and girls, have a seat.*

**QUIET
PRAYER
TIME**

- *Jesus, now it is time for Quiet Prayer Time. Quiet Prayer Time is a time of silence. We can sit or kneel and just enjoy being in Your Presence. We can quietly talk with You Heart-to-heart. We can look at the Bible story again or any of the stories in our Bible and slowly read it with You. If we brought a journal, we can use our gifts and talents to write a special poem or a song for You. We can draw a beautiful picture for You as our gift. Jesus, there are many wonderful ways that we can quietly pray during our Quiet Prayer Time with You now.*

**BENEDICTION
PREPARATION**

- *Jesus, in just a moment we will have Benediction. When Father/Deacon holds You up high, You will bless us, pouring graces upon us, and through us to our families, to our country and the whole world. We open up our hearts to all You want to give us today.*

BENEDICTION

- *Take out your program now and kneel. Together we will sing the Benediction Hymn "Down in Adoration Falling." **(follow the order of Benediction in the program)***

**CLOSING
HYMN**

- ***(After Father/Deacon closes the tabernacle)** Please stand. We will sing our closing hymn "Holy God We Praise Thy Name."*
- ***(After the hymn)** Thank you for coming. We hope to see you at our next Guided Eucharistic Holy Hour on _____. **(Any other announcements)***

