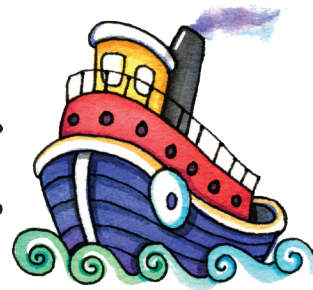


# The Catholic Tugboat

A Children's Guide to God



May 24, 2020 Cycle A, Seventh Sunday of Easter / Ascension Thursday Sunday

Volume V, Issue 26

## Buried Treasures



Acts 1:1-11  
Psalms 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9  
Ephesians 1:17-23  
Matthew 28:16-20

Jesus ascended to heaven from Mt. Olivet, "which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away." What is "a sabbath day's journey away"? For the answer to this, we look to the Old Testament.

First, when the Israelites were in the desert, they were forbidden to collect manna on the Sabbath. They were to gather manna for two days on the day before the Sabbath so they would not be forced to



work on the Sabbath. (Exodus 16:25-30). Second, when Joshua led the Israelites into the Promised Land, he ordered the Ark of the Covenant to be carried 2000 cubits in front of the tribes.

From these two passages, the Hebrews concluded that any travel over 2000 cubits (the distance to the Ark, or 'Seat of God') was considered work, and so, not allowed on the Sabbath. A sabbath-day's journey was anything under 2000 cubits, about a half a mile. What 'work' do you avoid on Sundays?



## Catholic I.D.

The Ascension of Jesus Christ is a truth that is considered a **dogma**, or a teaching whose truth has been revealed by Scripture or Tradition. Dogmas are the most basic of beliefs that make one a Christian.

The Ascension of Jesus is a 'full circle moment': first, in the Person of the Son, He became man and descended from heaven to save man; second, He ascended to heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father. (CCC 661) Here, the Son reigns *bodily* (CCC 663), opening a place for us to do the same.

This dogma is so important that we profess it in both Creeds, the Apostles' and Nicene. When Jesus ascended into heaven, He began a new age for us! (CCC 669)

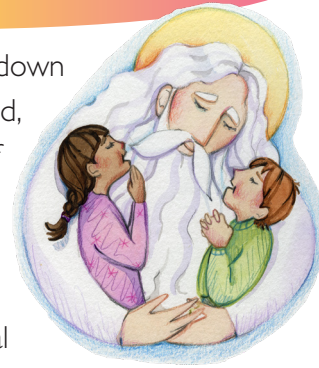


## From Your Lips to God's Ear

After the Holy Spirit is called down and the gifts are consecrated, we come to another part of the Eucharistic Prayer with an unusual name: **Anamnesis**. This means *to remember*, but to remember in a special

way. Closing our eyes, we remember by placing ourselves at the events in Jesus Christ's life as if we were there in person. (CCC 1354) Listen for these words: "Therefore, O Lord, we celebrate the memorial of the blessed Passion, the Resurrection... and the glorious Ascension."

Following this, the priest asks God to accept the **Offering** at His hands. And, at this time, we ask God to accept our offering of our own heart. (see website)



# Our Salvation History: Plagues!

Moses was not a good speaker, and so, was afraid of his mission, but God reassured him: 'I will produce great signs through you.' God was sending Moses to Pharaoh to free His people, and Moses, witnessing God's great power, finally said 'yes', packed up his family, and headed back to Egypt.

In Egypt Moses asked Pharaoh to let the Hebrews go into the desert to worship God. [The Hebrews offered animal sacrifice to Yahweh and this offended the Egyptians whose gods were in the form of these animals.] Pharaoh refused.

To prove God had sent him, Moses laid his staff on the ground – it turned into a serpent! Then Pharaoh's sorcerers threw down their staffs and they, too, turned into serpents. But, when Moses' serpent ate the other serpents, Pharaoh was amazed. Still, Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he refused to let the people go.



Moses then went down to the Nile river and said to Pharaoh, "The Lord, God of the Hebrews, sent me to you with the message: Let my people go..." (Exodus 7:16) Moses had Aaron (his older brother) hold a staff

over the water: it turned to blood and all the fish died. Pharaoh still would not budge. God continued to have Moses announce plagues, each plague crushing the various 'gods' of Egypt: frogs came out of the Nile; gnats formed a thick cloud; flies swarmed. Egyptian cattle were struck down, boils covered everyone, and hail fell, destroying the crops. But, through everything, Pharaoh refused to submit to God's will. Even when God covered the land in a great darkness, it would still take one more plague to convince Pharaoh.

Do you know what this last plague was? (read Exodus 7-10 for the whole story!)

## Tugboat Challenge

**Circle the words listed you find in the jumble. They go in all directions!**

Word Box:

ASCENSION	HAIL	RIVER
BLOOD	MANNA	SABBATH
BOILS	MOSES	SACRIFICE
CUBIT	NILE	SERPENT
DOGMA	OFFERING	WORK
EGYPT	PHARAOH	WORSHIP
FROG	PLAGUE	
GNAT	REMEMBERING	

K P P P R N D V X C X V U R T  
 U P Y A M F D Y T P P T X X G  
 H T A B B A S C E N S I O N Y  
 I M I E O H B M K A Q X I M C  
 T G Q D F I M T C W O R K T G  
 J U X S F M L R I V E R I D U  
 T P Y G E W I S I B X I Z A A  
 X I G O R F A P M L U W V I Z  
 X H H T I N L E Q O D C H T X  
 T S O C N A M H R O S H B E E  
 V R E A G E X S G D M E C R W  
 W O M U R N P M A Y A R S B U  
 C W E Z I A A R N I P H N X T  
 P O X L I A H T E G Q E L B H  
 Y S E L Q P D P K S P R H A M  
 V N P L I I M C S M N S R A Q

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