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Our Lord Jesus
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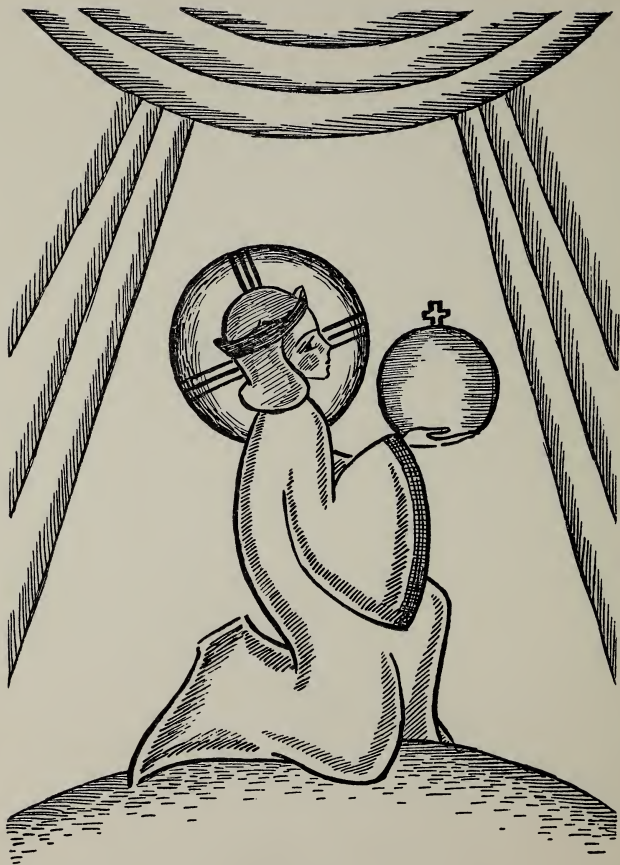
OUR LORD



ESUS



OUR LORD JESUS



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by

MARY PAULA WILLIAMSON

A Religious of the Cenacle

Illustrated by

SISTER MARY GERTRUDE

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Dedication

To

Margaret Ann Webb,

William Maben Webb,

and

Mary Elizabeth Webb.

A PRAYER

DEAR Lord Jesus,

Bless each person who reads this little book about Your sweet humanity and glorious Divinity!

This is a short story, understood by those who walk in the way of spiritual childhood, which is a sure ladder of love, resting upon faith in Our Lord Jesus, the Son of God.

Mary Paula Williamson

Religious of the Cenacle

ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE,
Lake Street,
Brighton 35, Mass.

FOREWORD

I am happy to introduce to its readers this latest book by Mother Mary Paula Williamson, Religious of the Cenacle. I join in her prefatory prayer that Our Blessed Lord will bless each person who reads this little book about Christ's sweet humanity and glorious Divinity.

Mother Williamson has written with simplicity and unaffected charm the ever-old, ever-new story of the life of Our Blessed Lord. The freshness of her narrative, the lovely illustrations she has chosen, add a further note of felicity, which will make many friends for *OUR LORD JESUS*, and this little book that tells of Him.

(Signed) ✠ Richard J. Cushing, D.D.
Archbishop of Boston.



THE ANNUNCIATION TO THE VIRGIN MARY

WHEN Caesar Augustus was Emperor of Rome, there lived in Nazareth, a town in Galilee, a young maiden named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a carpenter called Joseph. Both were poor, but descendants of a great king, David.

The lovely girl, Mary, was the purest and holiest of all women who have ever lived upon earth. This was the special privilege granted her by God; she was born without the stain of Original Sin.

One day the Archangel Gabriel flew down from the highest heaven, where the angels are always near God, to Nazareth, and entered the poor little house where Mary dwelt. He found her absorbed in prayer. He said to her in soft and lovely tones, "I salute you, all full of grace. You are the most blessed one among women!"

The Immaculate Virgin was a little troubled by this vision of an angel and his words of praise; she could not understand just what they meant.

Then Gabriel added, "Fear not, Mary, because you have found grace with God. You shall have a child and you must call Him by the name of Jesus. He shall be very great, because He is the Son of the Most High . . . and His Kingdom shall never end."

Mary understood then that this message was from God, so she bowed her head and said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord: be it done unto me according to your word."

Then the angel went away and left her alone. At the very moment when she gave her consent to the angel, the Eternal Son of God, the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, came down from heaven to earth and by the action and power of the Ho'y Spirit of God, Mary became the Mother of Jesus.

Jesus was none other than the Son of God, the Word made Flesh. Mary understood now what the angel meant, and her soul was filled with joy.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

NINE months had passed by since the day when the lovely Mary had received the Archangel's visit and heard his message. The great Emperor Augustus in Rome had sent out a command ordering all the people of his empire to be counted. They called this a census. Each person had to write his name in great books in the place where his family had first lived.

Mary and Joseph lived in Nazareth, but both belonged to the family of King David and he had lived in Bethlehem, so they had to go there.

The command of the Emperor had to be obeyed, although it was winter, and Bethlehem was ninety miles away. There was no way to travel except to walk, unless Joseph could provide a donkey on which Mary could ride. Even then it was not an easy ride, nor comfortable, as the road was full of holes and rocks, and it wound up and down over the mountains.

It was the 24th of December when they reached Bethlehem. They found the little town full of people. Other visitors had come, too, for the

census. Joseph and Mary looked for a lodging among their relatives and friends, but all these houses were crowded with visitors. They went to the inn, only to be turned away. Everywhere the answer was the same, "We have no room."

So they left the city and found a shelter in a poor cave in the hillside which was used for a stable. At midnight, the Son of God was born. He was born of the Virgin Mary for love of us. What a beautiful baby He was!

The Virgin Mother Mary bowed down in adoration before Him. Joseph, too, looked with wonder at the Son of God made man.

That night some poor and simple shepherds were watching their flocks of sheep on a hillside not far away. A most beautiful angel, surrounded by a heavenly light, appeared to them and said, "I bring you tidings of great joy! Today, in this city of Bethlehem where King David once lived, a child has been born who is the Saviour, Christ the Lord. Go and see Him. This is the sign by which you will know Him—You shall find the infant wrapped in winding clothes and laid in a manger."

Then a great, great many other angels came drifting around the one who gave the shepherds the message, all singing and praising God. Their song made the sweetest melody. "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men of good



will!" This song seemed to fill the whole countryside with music.

So the shepherds started with haste to the cave. When they went in, they saw the beautiful Babe in a manger, Mary and Joseph kneeling in adoration. They, too, bowed down in love, and they seemed to understand that this Babe, lying on the straw, was the long-expected Messiah, which means, the Saviour of the world.

Their hearts and minds were filled with faith and joy because they understood. Then they went out to tell others about the Babe of Bethlehem and His lovely Mother.

THE PURIFICATION OF MARY

MANY centuries ago, Moses, a great leader and teacher of the Hebrew people, made a law that every mother must go to the great Temple in Jerusalem and offer a sacrifice within forty days after the birth of her son. The priest at the Temple would bless her and her baby. The lovely ceremony was called "The Purification." The Holy Virgin was not obliged to obey this law because she was already pure. But she wished to do so because she was very humble.

On the same day on which the Holy Mary went to Jerusalem for the ceremony of the Purification, a holy man, Simeon, also felt inspired to go to the Temple. When Joseph and Mary, with the Babe in her arms, came into the Temple, Simeon saw them. God made him understand at once that this Child was truly the Messiah his people had prayed for and expected during so many centuries.

He asked the Virgin Mother very humbly if he might hold the Holy Babe in his arms for a few minutes. Lifting his eyes toward heaven, he said,

“Now, O Lord, let me die in peace, for I have seen with my own eyes the Saviour!”

The Virgin Mother and St. Joseph knew what Simeon meant, and they, too, adored the Babe who is our Saviour. Now that they had fulfilled all the Jewish Law required, they went back to Bethlehem with the Child Jesus.

THE ADORATION OF THE MAGI

IN a far distant land to the east there were three learned men, or Magi, kings of small countries. One night they saw in the sky a new star of unusual brightness and beauty.

They had studied the books of Holy Scripture and knew about the expected Messias. And they knew the Prophets had said that this Messias would be known by a brilliant star which all men could see in the heavens.

So the Magi thought among themselves, surely this wonderful new star must be a sign that the Saviour of the world had come. They decided to go and see if what they thought was true.

And if the Saviour had really come, they should bring Him some gifts. He would be worthy of their offerings and of their adoration. According to the Holy Books, He was a great King. Since they were little kings, they knew what was due a great King.

At that time, the ruler of the country of Judea was an ambitious and cruel man. His name was Herod. He heard the news about the kings, and

the Messiah they were seeking, and he was very angry. He feared he might lose his throne. But he pretended to be very interested, and called some of the most learned Jewish priests to come to see him. He asked them if they knew where the long-expected Messiah was to be born.

The learned men and priests answered that the Holy Scriptures said the place would be Bethlehem. Herod knew Bethlehem, because it was not far from Jerusalem.

So he said to the Magi, "Go to Bethlehem, and when you find out about this Child, come back and tell me, so that I can go and adore Him."

Herod was lying. He wanted to kill the Child because he feared he might lose his throne, and the Messiah would be King in his place.

The Magi left Jerusalem and arrived in Bethlehem. All the way there, that wonderful star in the sky had moved along above them, showing them the way. When they reached the stable where the Holy Child was, the star stopped, just above the cave.

They went in and there they saw the Holy Babe in His Mother's arms and St. Joseph nearby. The three Kings bowed down, touching their foreheads to the ground, as was the custom, and adored the Babe. They offered Him the rich gifts they had brought. The gifts were gold, frankincense and myrrh.



They did not know the wicked Herod's plans, and, as they were about to return to Jerusalem, an angel told them to go home another way. So they did, and never saw the wicked Herod again.

THE FLIGHT OF THE HOLY FAMILY INTO EGYPT

AFTER the departure of the Magi, an angel of the Lord came to Joseph while he was asleep, and said to him in a dream, "Arise, take the Child and His Mother and hasten into Egypt; there remain, until I tell you to return. Herod seeks the Child to kill Him."

St. Joseph, hearing these words of the angel, arose and told Mary of the message and the command. She knew this word was from God, so she made haste to depart with the Holy Child and Joseph.

While the Holy Family was traveling along as silently and as swiftly as they could towards Egypt, Herod was waiting for the Magi to come back to Jerusalem. He wanted to learn all about this Child, where He was born, and Who He was. Herod waited in vain.

The Magi, following the advice of the angel, departed from Bethlehem to their own countries by another road. The proud and ambitious Herod was angrily wondering why they did not appear.

He could not bear to think there was anyone in his dominion who might be the king, instead of himself. He was very cruel, and so he was planning how he might get rid of this Child whom he feared so much.

He sent for some of his generals and gave orders to send troops of soldiers out to hunt for all the boy babies they could find in Bethlehem and in the surrounding country. If the boy babies were two years old or younger, the soldiers were to kill them. In this way, the cruel king was sure the Child Jesus could not escape his soldiers.

He was only deceiving himself. The only child who really did escape *was* the Baby Jesus!



THE HIDDEN LIFE

WE do not know just how long the Holy Family lived in Egypt, but once more an angel came to St. Joseph in a dream and told him to arise, to take the Child Jesus and His Mother, and to return to the land of Israel. The wicked Herod had died, who had sought to kill the Child.

St. Joseph, always obedient to the voice of the angel, started at once for his own country and went to live in Nazareth.

Here, the Holy Child grew to boyhood, and then to manhood. The Holy Family lived in Nazareth thirty years. This long time is called "The Hidden Life" of Jesus, because in all those years Jesus never preached, or performed any miracles, or showed Himself to the world as the Messiah and Saviour.

The home of the Holy Family was very poor and humble. Jesus helped St. Joseph in his carpenter shop, making the things people wanted for their work. St. Joseph was a workman, and so was Jesus.



Only once, when Jesus was twelve years old, did something unusual happen.

This was the time when St. Joseph and Mary and the Boy Jesus went up to Jerusalem for the great Jewish Feast of the Passover, called the Pasch. This feast lasted seven days, and there were beautiful ceremonies in the Temple. People from all over Palestine went to the city for the Pasch.

The Holy Family finally left Jerusalem with other friends and relatives to return home to Nazareth. They had traveled all day, so at sunset they stopped to rest and to eat.

Then it was that Mary and St. Joseph discovered that the Boy Jesus was missing. It was the custom for the men to walk together and for the women to walk together, so it was not until they all stopped that the Boy Jesus was not to be found in either group.

The crowd was very large, and the children could go with either their fathers or their mothers, so Joseph was not surprised that he had not seen Jesus all day. Now that He was missing, there was great alarm.

There was nothing Mary and St. Joseph could do but to turn back and seek Him in the great city. They searched for three days, and at last found Him in the Temple talking to some of the great Rabbis. Rabbi is a Jewish word which means teacher.

How surprised, and yet how full of joy they were to find Him! He was listening to the Rabbis and asking them questions. How astonished these were at the wisdom of this wonderful Boy!

Mary, His Mother, whose heart had been full of anguish because she did not know where her Son was, cried out in astonishment, "Son, why have you done so to us? Behold, your father and I have been seeking you with sorrow."

Jesus turned to His Mother and replied, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be concerned with My Father's affairs?"

Nevertheless, He went with Mary and Joseph back to Nazareth and continued His humble work and His hidden life until He was thirty years old.

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

WHEN Jesus was thirty years old, He began His public life. One day He went to see St. John the Baptist, who was preaching to a large crowd of people on the shore of the Jordan river. John was baptizing the people in the river, when Jesus came to him and asked to be baptized, too.

St. John, knowing how holy Jesus was, was amazed and puzzled. He said, "Lord, I have need to be baptized by You, and why do You come to me?"

Then Jesus replied, "Let it be so now, because I must do the Will of God in this matter."

Then John baptized Jesus in the river Jordan. When Jesus came up out of the water, He began to pray. At that moment, the heavens seemed to open, and the Holy Spirit of God came down on His head in the form of a dove, while a Voice from the clouds spoke, "This is My Beloved Son; I am well pleased in Him!"

After His baptism, Jesus went away into the solitude of the desert where He remained for forty days, praying and fasting most severely.

It was while Jesus was there in the desert that Satan, the Evil One, came to tempt Him. Yes, the Devil could tempt even Jesus, the Son of God, but Jesus quickly drove him away.



THE WEDDING IN CANA

AFTER Jesus came out of the desert, He called some disciples to follow Him; afterwards, they were called "Apostles." He began to travel about the countryside, to preach and to teach the people. Everywhere He went, His Apostles went also. He told the people a new way to think of God, and a new way to love Him.

One day Mary was invited to a wedding in a town named Cana. Jesus was also invited, and some of His followers. A wedding is a beautiful, joyous feast and Jesus wanted to be there to bless the bride and the bridegroom. Jesus blessed this wedding feast in Cana and the marriage.

During the wedding dinner, the Holy Mary discovered that the wine for the guests had all been used up. The servants could not pour any more so they told her about it. Mary whispered the sad news to Jesus, "They have no more wine!" No doubt, she was sitting near her Son. He knew that she was asking Him to help the newly-wedded couple by a miracle.

But the Holy Mary, full of trust in the loving heart of her Son, Jesus, said to the servants, "Do what He shall tell you."

Then Jesus turned to the servants and said, "Fill the jars with water."

There were six large jars standing nearby for the use of the guests, because it was the custom for the guests to wash their hands before the feast and before they came to the table.

So the servants promptly obeyed the command of Jesus, and filled the jars with water, full to the brim. Then Jesus said to the servants, "Pour out now and take some to the chief steward."

The servants drew from the jars and great was their surprise when they saw that the water had turned into wine. They took some of it to the chief steward who tasted it and exclaimed, "This is wonderful wine!" Then he turned to the bridegroom and said, "Why have you kept such delicious wine until the end of the meal, when it is the custom to serve it at the beginning?"

Of course the bridegroom said that he did not know about the miracle which Jesus had done, but the servants knew, because they were the ones who had taken the water from the well and filled the jars.

This was the first of the miracles Jesus did at the beginning of His public ministry.

THE PREACHING OF JESUS

MANY, many people came to hear Jesus preach. They listened to Him with attention and joy. He spoke so well and said so many comforting things. Most of all, He told them the way to reach heaven, which they wanted to know about.

One day Jesus happened to be in the country talking to the people. There were so many who wished to hear Him and see Him, but they could not get near enough. Then Jesus went up onto a small hill so that they could all see and hear Him.

That day His talk was a long one, longer than usual; it was called afterwards, "The Sermon on the Mount." He told them how to find happiness; not to care too much for worldly things because heaven would be so much nicer; He talked to them about prayer, and about trusting in Him always. Again, He told them how to reach heaven, and many other lovely, good things.

Afterwards they said, "No man ever spoke as this man has." They were never tired of listening to Him, and followed Him from place to place.

It often happened that He had not time to sleep or to eat, they were so eager to hear the Divine Word of God which fell from His lips.

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

JESUS wished to teach people how to love their neighbors, so He told them this lovely story. A man was going from Jerusalem to Jericho. As he traveled along the road, some bandits struck him, robbed him, wounded him and left him by the roadside half dead.

A Jewish priest happened to pass by, and saw the poor man lying there, but he only looked, and then went on his way.

A little while later, a Levite came walking by. (A Levite was a person who helped in the services at the great Temple in Jerusalem.) He saw the poor unhappy man by the side of the road, and while he felt sorry for the fellow, the Levite did not go to help him in any way but walked on.

Later, a Samaritan came traveling by. He was really an enemy of the man who was wounded, because the Jews had nothing to do with the Samaritans. When he saw the poor wounded man, he felt so sorry for him he got down off his donkey at once and went to him. He bent over to give him a drink, bandaged his wounds after pouring oil

and wine upon them to heal them, then lifted the man upon his donkey and took him to the inn which was not far away.

He told the keeper of the inn to take care of the man; soon he would come that way again and pay for the man's care if it was more than the sum he gave the innkeeper.

The people, listening to this story, understood just what Jesus was trying to teach them about being kind to others. All people are our neighbors, the good and the bad, the rich and the poor, friends or enemies.

THE PRODIGAL SON

THIS is another one of the stories Jesus told. He wanted the people, and even us today, to know how good God is towards those who sin but repent. God's love and mercy are infinite—and that means without measure or limits.

The people were all about Jesus and the little children were sitting at His feet when He told them about the Prodigal Son.

Once there was a good and kind father who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father one day, "Father, give me the share of your goods that will belong to me." And the father gave the boy what he asked for.

A few days later, the boy went away and traveled to a country far from his home. There he spent all his money having a good time, wasting it on luxuries and silly pleasures.

Then there came a famine in that country and food was very, very scarce.

People began to starve and to die for lack of enough to eat. The young man was hungry, too, as he had nothing to eat. So he hired himself



out to a farmer to take care of the man's pigs. He had to watch the herd of swine and feed them corn husks and acorns. He was most unhappy and miserable.

One day he was thinking about his home, his father, his brother, and he remembered that even the servants in his father's house had more to eat than he had. Here he was dying of starvation, for no one gave him anything to eat.

So he made up his mind what he would do and said to himself, "I will arise and go back to my father and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be your son. Let me be as one of your servants.'"

So the boy started at once for home. When he came within sight of the house, his father saw him coming along the road. He was sure this was his son who had gone away, and was now returning home. His heart was filled with pity and love for his boy, so he ran to meet him, throwing his arms about his boy's neck and kissing him. The son said to his father, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son."

The father's eyes were filled with tears of joy, and he called to the servants, "Go quickly and bring some rich garments to put on my son; put a beautiful gold ring on his finger, and new shoes on his feet. Kill a fat calf and prepare a great

feast. Let us all rejoice and be merry, because my son who was lost is found; he was dead, and is now alive." And they had a wonderful feast.

In this story of the father who forgave his son's sins, Jesus gives us a picture of Himself. He had already said that He had come into the world to seek what was lost. And He had also said that He did not want any sinner to die but to come to Him in repentance and to be spiritually alive once more.

JESUS RESTORES A DEAD BOY TO LIFE

ONE day Jesus and His Apostles were going to the city of Naim to preach to the people there. A great many people were already crowding around Him, to hear Him, see Him, and if possible, to touch Him.

As they all moved along and came near to the gate of the city, they met a funeral procession. It was the funeral of a young man, the only son of his mother who was a widow.

In those days, the dead person was not closed up in a coffin but laid on a board, which was like a stretcher, carried by four men.

A large procession followed, of relatives and friends, and just behind the stretcher was the dead man's mother who was weeping bitterly.

Jesus saw this procession and felt very, very sorry for the poor mother. When He came near, He stopped the funeral procession and said, "Do not weep!"

Then He went near, and stopped the men who were carrying the stretcher. Speaking with a commanding voice, He said, "Young man, I say to thee arise!"

At the commanding voice of the Son of God, the young man stirred, and then sat up. He looked about him in astonishment, and began to speak to his mother and to the others crowding about him.

Jesus told the bearers to put down the stretcher, and the young man stood up. His mother clasped him in her arms, this time weeping for joy. How they thanked Jesus over and over again for His great kindness!

JESUS CALMS THE TEMPEST

ONE day Jesus was in a boat with His Apostles. They were crossing a lake, called Genesareth. The Apostles noticed how very tired Jesus was because He had been preaching all that day, and insisted that He take a little rest. Jesus laid His head on a pillow and fell fast asleep.

Meanwhile, the Apostles were rowing and pushing the boat ahead because they saw a storm coming. Suddenly a strong wind struck the lake, and at once there was a great tempest. The waves rose higher and higher, the wind whistled and blew through the rigging of the boat, rocking it and tossing it here and there. Then it began to fill with water, and was in danger of sinking any moment. While the Apostles were tugging and pulling in the sails, Jesus was sleeping peacefully in the end of the boat.

Then the Apostles came to Him, and called above the roar of the wind and waves, "Lord, save us, we are lost!"

Jesus opened His eyes, and said to them so calmly, "Why are you afraid, you men of little faith?"

Then He stood at the side of the boat and said to the sea, "Be still!" And the wind stopped blowing at once, the waves quieted down and a great silence spread over the lake.

The Apostles were so amazed at the sudden change from a terrible storm to such quiet and peace, they asked one another, "Who is this Man Who commands the winds and the sea, and they obey Him?"

MULTIPLICATION OF THE BREAD AND FISHES

THE crowds were never tired of listening to the beautiful sermons of Jesus. They followed Him everywhere, sometimes forgetting to eat. Once, when He was surrounded by many people, Jesus said to His Apostle Philip, "Where can we get some bread to give them?"

Philip replied, "Lord, two hundred pennies' worth of bread would not be enough for all these people, so that each one could have even a little bit to eat."

Jesus said, "How many loaves of bread are there? Find out!"

Then St. Andrew standing near, saw a little boy with a basket, so Andrew remarked to Our Lord, "There is a boy who has five barley loaves and two fishes, but what good would they be for so many people?"

There were five thousand men, not counting the women and children, who were there. However, Jesus said, "Bring the loaves and fishes to Me.



And tell all the people to sit down on the grass in groups.”

The grass had grown quite high, but it had not yet been cut, so the people all sat down in groups of fifties and of hundreds.

Then Jesus took the five loaves of bread and the two little fishes, and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He blessed them and gave thanks. After that, He broke them into pieces and told the Apostles to give them to the hungry people sitting on the grass.

Soon everyone was eating and enjoying the bread and fishes, and having as much as they wanted. When everyone was satisfied, Jesus told the Apostles to take some baskets and gather up all the scraps and pieces that were left. He did not want anything wasted.

So the Apostles went about and they gathered up twelve large baskets of what was left over after the feast.

JESUS MAKES PETER THE HEAD OF HIS CHURCH

ON a certain day, Jesus was talking to the people and telling them a story that was wonderful to hear. It was just after the miracle of the loaves and fishes. He said that He wanted to give men His Flesh to eat and His Blood to drink. What He meant was the Holy Eucharist which He instituted later, at the Last Supper in the Cenacle. The Cenacle was a large supper room where Jesus gathered His Apostles about Him before He died.

There were many who were listening to Him now who did not understand what He meant, and so they went away from Him.

There was a great mystery in His words, but because they did not know what He meant, they refused to listen. Jesus seemed to be alone, except for His Apostles who were near Him.

“Will you also go away?” He said to them. Then Peter, speaking for the rest, replied, “Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

Soon after this, Jesus was traveling again and was in the city of Bethsaida and other villages nearby. One day He turned to His Apostles and asked them, "Who do men say that the Son of Man is? Who do the people say that I am?"

They answered, "Some say you are John the Baptist. Some say you are the prophet Elias, or Jeremias, risen from the dead."

Jesus listened to them, and then He said, "And you, who do *you* say I am?"

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Jesus smiled and nodded His head that Simon was right, and said, "Blessed are you, Simon, because flesh and blood has not revealed that to you, but My Father Who is in Heaven. And I will tell you something. You are Peter, and upon this rock I shall build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against her. I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatsoever you shall bind on earth, shall be bound also in heaven, and whatsoever you shall loose upon earth, shall be loosened in heaven."

Those were wonderful words. They meant that Peter was the first Pope of the Church and the Church would always believe and teach that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. When Jesus spoke those words He established the Holy, Roman, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

THE RAISING OF LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD

IN a very nice home not far from Jerusalem there lived a man named Lazarus. He was a friend whom Jesus loved and he always listened to the words of Jesus with much good will. Jesus was a welcome visitor to the home of Lazarus, and when He traveled to Bethany, Jesus loved to rest in this pleasant home. Lazarus had two sisters named Martha and Mary, and they were also kind and loving friends of Jesus.

One time Lazarus fell ill, seriously ill. The sisters sent a message to Jesus that their brother Lazarus was ailing. Jesus was preaching to the people quite far away from Bethany. A servant brought the message, "Lazarus, whom You love, is very ill."

Jesus did not leave the place where He was, because He knew He would then work a greater miracle than any He had yet done. So it was two days after He received the message that He started for Bethany with His Apostles.

When He drew near the city, some of His friends came to meet Him and told Him that Lazarus was dead and had been buried four days before.

Some people must have run ahead to tell Martha that Jesus was coming, because she went to meet Him, and said to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

Then Jesus said to her quietly, "Your brother will rise again."

Martha replied, "I know that he will rise again at the resurrection, when the last day comes."

Jesus said to her, "I am the Resurrection and the Life; he who believes in *Me*, although he is dead, shall live; and whoever has faith in *Me* shall live for all eternity. Can you believe this?"

And Martha said, "Yes, Lord! I believe You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. It is for You we have been waiting; You are the Messiah Who has come into the world."

Then Martha went away to call her sister Mary. When she found Mary, she whispered in her ear, "The Master is here and is asking for you."

So Mary went to Jesus weeping, and knelt at His feet. "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

Jesus was silent, looking at all the people standing about weeping. His heart was filled with a

great pity for them, and He said gently, "Where have you laid him?"

They all answered, "Come and see!" And they led Him to the grave of Lazarus. There were tears in the eyes of Jesus, and rolling down His cheeks. The relatives, friends and servants exclaimed: "See how He loved Lazarus!"

When they came to the tomb, which was a cave with a huge stone rolled in front of the entrance, Jesus stopped the crowd and said, "Take away the stone!"

As soon as they did that, Jesus said in a clear, strong voice, "Lazarus, come out here!"

At once the dead man came out, his hands and feet still bound about with the linen cloths they had wrapped about him to bury him.

Jesus said, "Loose him, and let him go free!"

Seeing such a great miracle, many of the Jews who were with Martha and Mary believed in Jesus. They said that this man was surely the Messiah.

Others did not believe, and reported it all to the chief priests and Pharisees, who summoned a council.

"What, are we about to let this Man perform such miracles? Soon every one will be believing in Him," they said.

And they resolved to find an excuse to put Jesus to death. But He knew their thoughts, and He knew the time for Him to die had not yet come, so He went on His way doing good.

JESUS AND LITTLE CHILDREN

VERY often as Jesus went about doing good and preaching to the people, He showed how much He loved little children. They were always about with their mothers and fathers and used to come up to Him as He talked, putting their hands on His arms or resting against His knees.

He would lovingly bend down to them, and putting His hand on their heads, He blessed them. He would take the smallest ones up in His arms and press them to His heart. Many of the mothers, when they saw how He loved children, wanted to bring their little ones to Him so that He might touch them and bless them.

One day a crowd of mothers with their children was so large, and pushing about Him so much, the Apostles were annoyed. They thought the children were making too much noise and disorder around Jesus.

So, thinking that they were doing Him a favor, they scolded the mothers and told them to stop pushing and to take their children home.

Jesus was very grieved at this and did not like



what the Apostles were doing, so He said to them :
“Let the little children come to Me; the kingdom
of God is for those like them.”

Then He called the children to Him, and blessed
them tenderly.

On another day Jesus reached out to a little
child, who came and leaned against Him. Jesus
put His arm about the little one and said to His
Apostles, “Believe Me, unless you become like little
children, you shall not enter the kingdom of heav-
en. If you welcome a little child in My name, you
welcome Me. If anyone hurts the conscience of
one of these little ones, who believe in Me, he had
better been drowned in the depths of the sea.

“Never despise one of these little ones, because
I tell you they have angels of their own in heaven
who continually behold the Face of My Heavenly
Father.”

By these words, Jesus wants us to know that
the souls of innocent children are very dear to
Him. How great and how terrible is the sin of
those who teach evil to little ones who do not know
it! And it is just as sinful to teach evil by ex-
ample.

Jesus told His Apostles, “It must needs be that
such scandal should come, but woe to the man
through whom it comes.” And He warned that
there is a place known as hell for the sinful who
continue to sin.

JESUS ENTERS JERUSALEM IN TRIUMPH

THERE were just five days left until the death of Jesus. A great multitude heard that Jesus was going up to Jerusalem for the feast of the Pasch, so they watched for Him to come along the road. They saw Him coming, sitting upon a donkey, and they rushed to welcome Him, carrying palm branches and waving them with great joy.

The news of His coming spread about, so more and more people came to meet Him. They spread their garments on the road for Him to pass over and shouted with great joy, "Hosanna! Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed be the King of Israel!"

As the procession moved along, Jesus came to a high place just beneath Mt. Olivet, and stopped to look at the city of Jerusalem, spread out below Him. He gazed at the scene in silence, and His eyes were filled with tears. Then those around Him heard Him speaking as if to the city, "Oh, Jerusalem, if you could only understand at this moment what is for your peace! But it is hidden from your eyes for the present. The days are

coming when your enemies will dig a trench about you and will surround you on all sides, and enter your walls and your gates. They will destroy you and all your children, and they will not leave a stone upon a stone, because you have not known the time of My visiting you.”

Jesus wept over the city because He foresaw it years later, when the Roman armies had destroyed it.

It was a just punishment for that most ungrateful city where Jesus was condemned to death and died on the cross. The rulers and the people had refused to believe that He was the Messiah and the Son of God.

THE LAST SUPPER

IT was just two days before the Pasch. All the chief priests, scribes and elders were gathered together in the palace of Caiphias, the high priest, to plan how they might catch Jesus and kill Him.

One of the twelve Apostles, named Judas Iscariot, also came to the council meeting. For a long time he had ceased to love Jesus, and his heart was full of avarice, which made him proud and a thief. He knew all the ways of Jesus, and the places where He used to go, so Judas told the scribes and elders that he could tell them the best time and place for getting hold of Jesus. Then Judas said, "What will you give me for this?"

Jesus' enemies rejoiced at this plan of Judas', and replied, "We will give you thirty pieces of silver."

Judas was contented with the pay they promised to give him, and began to think of the best way for giving Jesus over into their hands.

When the day came for eating the Paschal supper, according to the custom of the Jewish

people, He gathered His Apostles about Him in the supper room, called the Cenacle, and sat at a long table with them. Judas was there, too.

After Jesus sat down, He said to them, "I have longed and longed to share this Paschal meal with you before My suffering."

Then, during the supper, He rose from the table, laid His outer garments aside, took a towel, poured some water into a basin, and going to the Apostles, He washed the feet of each one and kissed them.

After He had washed the feet of all, Jesus sat down again at the table. Looking at them lovingly, He said, "Believe Me, one of you is about to betray Me." The Apostles all stared at one another, wondering which one of them Jesus meant. They were sad, and began to ask, "Is it I, Lord?"

Jesus would not say openly who the traitor was because in His infinite goodness and mercy He hoped Judas would repent and not do this terrible thing.

Judas would not yield to the kindness and love of Jesus; he was determined to commit his sin, so towards the end of the supper, he got up and went out of the room. Satan had entered his heart. Jesus said to him, "Be quick on your errand."

When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of God has achieved His glory, and God is exalted." Jesus took a small roll of bread in His



two hands (it was bread without yeast, such as was used for the Passover feast), and standing up He raised His eyes toward heaven, blessed it, broke it and gave it to His Apostles, saying to them, "Take and eat, this is My Body which shall be given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

Then He took a cup and poured some wine into it, thanked God, blessed it and passed it to them saying, "Drink you all of this, for this is My Blood that shall be shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins."

The Apostles were much amazed and filled with emotion. At once they got up from their places and knelt at His feet to receive from the hands of Jesus the consecrated bread and wine that had become His real Body and Blood.

That was the first time Holy Communion had been given in the world.

JESUS PRAYS IN THE GARDEN OF OLIVES

WHEN the supper was over, Jesus sat with His Apostles at the table a long time and gave a beautiful sermon to them. At the close of it, He prayed to His Heavenly Father a most sublime prayer.

Then He left the Cenacle with His Apostles, and singing hymns they all went towards a place called Mt. Olivet, which was beyond the brook Cedron, a place where Jesus was accustomed to go to pray.

When they came to a plot of ground called Gethsemani, Jesus said to His Apostles, "Sit down here while I go and pray."

He took Peter and James and John with Him. Soon He grew very sorrowful. He said to them, "My soul is sad, even unto death. Stay here and keep watch. Pray that you may not enter into temptation."

He went a little further away from them and threw Himself on the ground, praying that if it were possible, this hour of sorrow might pass Him by. Then He cried, "My Father, all things are possible to Thee; take away this chalice from before Me; only as Thy Will is done."

After that, He went to His Apostles and found them all sleeping. He said to Peter, "Simon, are you sleeping? Had you not strength to watch with Me even one hour? Watch and pray, that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing indeed, but the flesh is weak."

Then He went away again, and prayed once more, using the same words, "My Father, if this chalice cannot pass, but I must drink it, Thy Will be done."

Again He came to His Apostles, and again He found them asleep, because their eyes were heavy, and so they knew not what answer to make Him.

Then He left them once more and went away to pray for the third time saying the same words. An angel came to comfort and strengthen Him.

Jesus was in such an agony that a sweat of blood fell from His Body in thick drops which trickled to the ground.

Rising from His prayer He came to His Apostles, and finding them still sleeping He said to them, "Sleep and take your rest. It is enough, the time has come for the Son of Man to be betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, and let us go on our way."

JESUS IS SCOURGED AND CROWNED WITH THORNS

AS soon as Jesus had ended His prayer in the Garden of Olives, Judas arrived with a company of soldiers and a crowd of Jews. They all had arms or clubs, and had come to capture Jesus. They wanted to take Him, tie Him with ropes and lead Him to the tribunal to have Him condemned to death.

Judas, so as not to appear as a traitor, had said to the soldiers, "He whom I shall kiss is Jesus; take Him and lead Him away."

Thereupon Judas walked up to Jesus and said, "Hail, Master!" and kissed Him.

Jesus said to Judas, "Would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"

Then the soldiers took hold of Jesus and tied Him with ropes. The Apostles were dumbfounded and frightened, so they all ran away. Peter followed from a distance.

The soldiers led Jesus before Caiphaz, who was the high priest of the Jews; then they led Him before the supreme tribunal called the Sanhedrin, and after that, before Pontius Pilate, the governor of Judea.

Jesus had said many times that He was the Son of God, the Saviour of the world, and He repeated these statements before the tribunals. They would not believe Him, and only considered His words blasphemous, which served them as the excuse for putting Him to death.

False witnesses were brought in to accuse Jesus before Pilate, saying that He stirred up the people to rebel against the laws of the Roman Empire.

Pilate, however, did not judge Jesus guilty and had Him sent to Herod who was the king of Galilee and was in Jerusalem at the time. Herod said Jesus was out of His mind and sent Him back to Pilate.

Then Pilate gathered the princes of the priests, the magistrates and leaders of the people, and said to them, "You have brought this Man before me as one who is a disturber of the people, who calls Himself a king, named Christ. I have questioned Him in your presence, and I find none of the charges you bring against Him to be true. Nor did Herod, to whom I sent Him, find that He had done anything worthy of death. I will scourge Him, and then He shall go free."

The people only shouted the louder, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"

Pilate was a coward. He feared the cries of the people, and although he knew that Jesus was innocent, he gave the order to have Him scourged.

Pilate hoped the priests and people might be moved to pity and thus he could save Jesus from death; but it was a vain hope that did not take away his great sin.

After that, Jesus was tied to a column and scourged with whips made of rope and leather strips. The strikes were numbered, and far beyond the number allowed, even for the worst slaves and criminals. His Holy Body was bruised and wounded, and from His torn flesh the Sacred Blood of the Saviour flowed in riverlets to the ground.

The heartless executioners were not satisfied with the torments of the scourging, but tormented the soul of Jesus with contempt and scorn. They pretended to crown Him a king in derision, and in this they found a new way of giving Jesus pain.

They put on His head a crown of thorns, a little reed in His hand for a sceptre, such as kings hold, and an old cloak was thrown over His shoulders. After they had dressed Him in this fashion, they mocked Him, bent the knee before Him, and laughed at Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!"

They spat on Him, and taking the reed from His hand, they hit Him on the head, and struck Him in the face.

At last they were done with mockery, so stripping Him of the scarlet cloak, they put on His own garments and led Him away to be crucified.

ON THE ROAD TO CALVARY

WHEN Pilate saw Jesus torn and covered with blood, he thought that the people would be contented and not ask for His death. So he led Jesus out on a balcony of his palace where the crowds could see Him, saying "Behold the Man!"

What Pilate meant was, "Behold the Man you have brought to me. How can you fear a Man reduced to such a state?"

That sight which should have softened the heart of the hardest man, could not move the Jews to pity for Jesus. They only cried with loud voices, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"

Pilate replied, "Take Him, you, and crucify Him, I find no fault in Him!"

Then the Jews added, "We have a law, and according to this law, He must die because He made Himself the Son of God. If you release this Man, you are not a friend of Caesar, the Emperor. Anyone who makes himself a king is against Caesar."



Pilate saw then that nothing helped; on the contrary, the tumult was increasing, so he took some water in a basin and washed his hands before the people, saying as he did so, "I am innocent of the blood of this just Man, see you to it!"

All the people shouted their reply, "His blood be upon us and our children!"

Then Pilate pronounced the most unjust and wicked of all condemnations; Jesus was to die on the cross.

The sentence was hardly pronounced when the soldiers brought the cross, which was prepared in advance, and gave it to Jesus.

Jesus grasped the cross lovingly, kissed it and placed it upon His shoulders. He started towards Mount Calvary, surrounded by the soldiers and the rabble.

Two thieves were condemned to death at the same time as Jesus, and to the same kind of death. They now followed behind Jesus, carrying their own crosses.

Jesus was exhausted by pain, all His wounds bleeding from the scourging and the crown of thorns. He was hardly able to drag His cross after Him, and along that painful road He fell three times under the weight of His cross.

At the end of that procession of wicked men, there walked a small group of holy women, among them the Mother of Jesus. St. John, the Apostle whom Jesus loved, was with her.

Who knows what suffering tore the heart of Mary, the Sorrowful Mother, as she followed her Son on that most sad and painful walk to Calvary?

Not far away were other brave women, Mary Magdalen, and Mary, the mother of James and of Joseph, and Salome. They loved Jesus, and longed to minister to Him as they always had done.

CRUCIFIXION AND DEATH OF JESUS

JESUS, arriving at the top of Calvary, did not wait for the command of the executioners, but put the cross on the ground, and placed Himself upon it. He opened His arms wide across it, like a loving embrace for all mankind; He adjusted His feet in the proper place, one above the other, and the men nailed first His hands and then His feet to the cross.

It was about the middle of the day, at noon, when Jesus was crucified. How He suffered when the cross was raised up, and then dropped with a thud into a hole in the ground prepared for it!

The princes of the priests, the elders, the Scribes and Pharisees, and all sorts of people were crowding about the cross, insulting Him, and saying, "You, Who said You could destroy the Temple, and then in three days rebuild it, save Yourself! If You *are* the Son of God, come down from the cross!"

The soldiers, too, and the evil ones in the crowd, swore at Him and insulted Him in many ways.



Jesus only looked at them all with love and then lifting His eyes to heaven, He said this beautiful prayer, "Father, forgive them! They know not what they are doing!"

The two thieves who were condemned to the cross because of their crimes, were on either side of Him. One of them blasphemed and insulted Jesus, but the other reproved him for doing so, saying, "Do you not fear God when you are undergoing the same sentence? We are condemned justly enough; we receive no more than the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing amiss!"

Then he turned to Jesus and said, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom."

And Jesus replied, "I promise you that today you shall be with Me in Paradise."

Near the cross of Jesus stood His Mother Mary and St. John. Jesus turned His eyes towards His most sweet Mother and the beloved disciple and said to Mary, "Woman, this is your son."

And to St. John he said, "Behold your mother!" From that time, John took her to his home and cared for her as her own Son would have done.

With those words, Jesus made His Holy Mary the Mother of all mankind.

It was now about three o'clock and the sun began to be hidden by a darkness that crept over the earth. Jesus cried out with a sorrowful voice, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

In truth, our Heavenly Father could not abandon His Divine Son, but Jesus wanted to endure that mysterious abandonment of His Father to save men from ever being abandoned by God, which is a most terrible thing and could happen on account of the grievous sins of men.

After a while, Jesus said, "I thirst." This cry meant much more than a cry of physical thirst. It was an ardent desire for the salvation of souls. Jesus was saying, "I thirst for souls."

The soldiers dipped a sponge in some sour vinegar, sticking it on the end of a long reed, and put it to the lips of Jesus. Jesus tasted the vinegar and said, "It is finished!" He meant, "All the sacrifice of Myself for the salvation of men is accomplished."

Then, with a loud voice, He cried, "Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit," and, bowing His head, He died.

Thus, after an agony of three hours on the cross, our most sweet Brother and Saviour willed to die, and by dying, gave His life for the whole world.

At the moment of Jesus' death, a great earthquake shook the earth. The rocks of the mount were broken apart, making great chasms. Over in the Temple, the veil that covered the holiest part, called the Holy of Holies, was torn and rent from top to bottom.

The centurion and the soldiers who were watching and guarding Jesus were struck with a terrible fear. They ran from Calvary in a hurry, and all the people, too, beating their breasts and crying aloud, "Surely, this Man was the Son of God!"

The Jews went to the governor, Pilate, and asked if the legs of the three crucified ones could be broken and their bodies taken away. They did not want the bodies hanging on the crosses on the Sabbath day. This was forbidden by the Jewish laws, because the Sabbath was a day of great solemnity.

So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the two thieves, but when they came to Jesus, they saw that He was already dead, so they did not break His legs. However, one of the soldiers pierced His side with a lance, and at once there flowed from the wound blood and water.

THE BURIAL AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS

AFTER Jesus had expired on the cross, a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, went to Pilate and asked permission to take the body of Jesus from the cross and bury it.

Pilate, hearing from the centurion that Jesus was really dead, gave the permission, and Joseph took the body of Jesus away.

Joseph of Arimathea owned a new tomb which had never been used, and here he buried Jesus with great reverence and love.

The tomb was carved out of a rock and not far from the place where Jesus had been crucified. When Joseph took the body from the cross, he wrapped it in a large linen sheet called a "winding sheet" and put in many sweet spices to preserve the body from decay.

The enemies of Jesus were not satisfied with the burial, and they begged Pilate to place some soldiers as guards at the entrance of the sepulchre. They feared that the Apostles of Jesus might come and take His body away.

The burial of Jesus had taken place before sunset, only a few hours after His death. The day was Friday. Ever since then, we have called the day on which Jesus died, "Good Friday."

Jesus remained in the tomb all the rest of that day, all day Saturday, and the first hours of Sunday; so it is correctly said that He rose from the dead on the third day after His death.

Early in the morning of the third day, Mary Magdalen, and Joanna, and another Mary, the mother of James, went to the sepulchre. They carried a large jar of sweet smelling spices and herbs to embalm the body of Jesus, as that was the custom.

On the way to the tomb, they were wondering whom they could get to roll away the stone from the entrance. Even as they walked, an earthquake seemed to shake the ground.

It was then that the soul of Jesus was reunited to His body by its own Divine power, and the Man-God, alive, beautiful, glorious, surrounded by a heavenly light, left the closed sepulchre.

An angel came from heaven and rolled back the great stone and sat on it. The guards fell backwards to the ground, and covered their faces with their arms. Then they got up and ran away with fright.

Meanwhile, the holy women arrived at the tomb. They found the great stone already rolled back,



so they went into the tomb. There they saw two angels in glistening white garments and a radiant light, sitting, one at the head and the other at the foot, where the body of Jesus had lain.

When the women bowed their faces to the earth in fear, one of the angels said, "No need to be fearful, you have come to look for Jesus of Nazareth, Who was crucified; He is risen again, He is not here. Here is the place where they laid Him. Do not seek the living among the dead. Go now and tell His disciples and Peter that Jesus is risen from the dead."

The women were very much impressed and were filled with fear. At the same time they were trembling with joy. They left the sepulchre in haste and ran back to the city to give the news to the disciples of all they had seen and heard.

Mary Magdalen, however, did not go with the others, but remained behind at the tomb weeping.

Suddenly, Jesus appeared to her and called her by name. In the most sweet accents, He said, "Mary."

At the sound of that voice, Mary Magdalen was thrilled. She knew it was Jesus' voice, and raised her eyes, all wet with tears, to look at Him. She could see that He was, indeed, living and truly Jesus, and throwing herself at His feet, cried, "Master!"

Then Jesus said, "Do nothing to Me. Return to My brethren, and tell them that I am going to My

Father in Heaven, and to your Father. He is My God and your God.”

Then Jesus vanished from her sight.

The same day when evening had come, the Apostles were all together in that same upper room, the Cenacle, and the doors were shut and locked for fear of the Jews. Suddenly Jesus appeared in their midst and said, “Peace be with you! It is I, fear not.”

But the Apostles were troubled and filled with wonder, and thought that they saw a spirit. Jesus said to them, “Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at My hands and My feet, for it is truly I, your Master. Touch Me and see. Spirits do not have flesh and bones, as you see Me to have.”

He showed them His hands and His feet and the wound in His side, and stayed with them a short while. Then He vanished from their sight.

Thomas was not in the Cenacle the time when Jesus came, and so he had not seen Him. The other Apostles told Thomas the news with great enthusiasm and joy; how Jesus had suddenly appeared in their midst, the doors shut and bolted; and He had come in through closed doors.

Thomas would not let himself be persuaded that what the others were telling him was true.

So Thomas said to the disciples of Jesus, “Until I have seen the mark of the nails on His hands,

until I have put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into His side, you will not make me believe."

It was eight days later when the Apostles were again together, and this time Thomas was with them. Jesus came and stood before them, and said, "Peace be with you."

Then Jesus said to Thomas, "Let Me have your finger; see, here are My hands. Let Me have your hand; put it into My side. Cease your doubting and believe."

Then Thomas exclaimed, "Thou art my Lord and my God!"

And Jesus said to him, "Thomas, you have learned to believe, because you have seen Me. Blessed are those who have not seen Me, and yet have learned to believe."

THE ASCENSION

AFTER His resurrection, Jesus remained on earth forty days before He returned to heaven. During those forty days, He was not always with His Apostles, as He was before His death. He would come and go, making brief visits, but each time He would tell them many things. He seemed to be completing all His instructions to them before He should disappear forever.

When He came to His Apostles for the last time, He said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me; you must go out and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all the commandments which I have given you. And, behold, I am with you through all the days that are coming, until the consummation of the world."

And Jesus said some other things, too; that those who believed in Him would be saved, and those who did not, would be condemned.

He gave a long explanation of the meaning of the Scriptures which told about Him, and at the

end He said, "The Holy Ghost will come upon you, and you will receive strength from Him; you are to be witnesses for Me in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the very ends of the earth."

Thus, the mission of Jesus on earth was completed. He had given to the world a new and great law of Love; He had shown the way for eternal salvation; with His sorrowful Passion and death, He had made expiation for the sins of men; He had merited for them all graces, and He had reopened the gates of heaven.

Finally, He had entrusted to His Apostles and to their successors the great mission of extending to the whole world the fruits of the Redemption. Having finished His work, Jesus now would return to His Father.

Therefore, one beautiful day He led His Apostles out to Mt. Olivet, near Bethany, and after blessing them most lovingly for the last time, He began to rise slowly towards heaven, until a cloud drifted by and hid Him from their sight.

The Apostles were deeply moved. They followed Jesus with their eyes, wet with tears, and when the cloud closed over Him, still they stood gazing heavenwards. They seemed to try to pierce the blue sky, in the hopes of seeing again their adored Master.

Suddenly voices spoke to them, and they saw two angels standing nearby who said, "Men of

Galilee, why do you stand here looking heavenwards? He who has been taken from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same manner as you have watched Him going into heaven." This meant that Jesus will come again from heaven at the end of the world.

Then the Apostles bowed themselves down to the ground, adoring Jesus, true God and true Man, Who at that moment, in soul and body, was gloriously seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, in the marvelous glory of the Most Holy Trinity forevermore.

