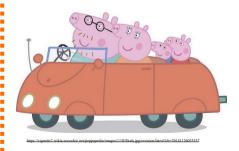


Sunday, May 13th



- How many days after Easter is Jesus' Ascension?
- Whom does Jesus promise to send to the Apostles?
- 3. What are some things we can do to prepare for Jesus' return to earth?

Praying Together:

Lord Jesus,
You ascended into Heaven to be
with Your Father and to prepare a
place for us. Bestow the Holy Spirit
upon us that we may better follow
in Your footsteps and enter into
Heaven on the last day.
Amen.

Parents' Cheat Sheet - Car Qs

May 13/18, Sunday of the Holy Father of the 1st Ecumenical Council/ Sunday After the Ascension (7th Sunday of Easter)

- 1. How many days after Easter is Jesus' Ascension?
 - 1. 40
 - 2. 40 is a significant number and seen throughout the Liturgical year. The period of fasting during Great Lent is 40 days, as is the fasting period preceding Christmas. After His baptism, Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness, praying and fasting.
 - 3. According to the *Orthodox Study Bible*, "Forty is a number indicating completion or fulfillment." ³⁰
 - 4. In this way, we can view the Ascension as the restoration of humanity to God, since Jesus is human as well as divine. Now that Jesus sits at the right hand of God the Father, we have that same chance to have a relationship with God the Father and ultimately enter into Heaven.
- 2. Whom does Jesus promise to send to the Apostles?
 - 1. The Holy Spirit
 - 2. Since Jesus is no longer on earth, humanity needs a guide.
 - 3. God the Holy Spirit is that guide and gives power to the Apostles, and to all who are baptized, to go forth and "be witnesses to [Jesus] [...] to the end of the earth."³¹
 - 4. As we hear in a Christian's initiation celebration at the time of Chrismation, "The seal of the Gift of the Holy Spirit. Amen."³²
- 3. What are some things we can do to prepare for Jesus' return to earth?
 - 1. Learn about Jesus from our parents and church family, read the Scriptures, pray at home and at church, sing praises to God, be kind to others, do good works, share Jesus' message with others, etc.

***For more on the Ascension, check out A Byzantine Rite Liturgical Year, p. 170-171.

³⁰ Note on Acts 1:3, p. 1469

³¹ Acts 1:8

³² "Holy Chrismation." Christian Initiation of Children. p. 157.