

The Observance of the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

Easter is not a day nor only a week of Sundays but rather a Pentecost, a celebration of fifty days. For fifty days the Church rejoices in the Paschal Mystery of the Lord's death, resurrection, return in glory (Ascension) to the Father and descent of the Holy Spirit.

Although the obligation of Mass attendance remains suspended this year because of the pandemic, the **Ascension of the Lord** is a very important part of Paschal spirituality. The Bishops of the Metropolitan Province of Newark (i.e. the State of New Jersey) have, again for this year, joined most of the country in assigning the observance to the Seventh Sunday of Easter.

Even though for many, live-streaming will be the medium for observance, we are delighted that these three solemnities, **Easter, Ascension and Pentecost** are all taking place on Sundays.

