

Do any of you know what the ascension of Jesus is? It started first on Christmas, he came down from heaven to be born like you and me as a baby. He then grew as adult, suffered, died and rose again. The Ascension is where he returns from whence it all began.

What does that mean for you and me? It means he lifts humanity up to heaven. Jesus' ascension seats human flesh, the stuff we are made of, up there with God. How we talk of God must also include our humanity.

It also means he is going invite us, one day, to follow, so we can hang out with Jesus, his Dad, the Holy Spirit and his many friends. All we have to do to get there is to remain faithful to him.

What does it mean to remain faithful? It means talking to God every day, being good to your parents and other people. Do that, and he is going one day, take you on a trip to heaven. We all want to get heaven, don't we? Just not now...

Now, one tough question, what might keep us from being there with him? Well, do you remember your first confession with me? Sin is what weighs us down. We might call that the sins of gravity. That kind of gravity is not around us but within us.

We have to let that go before we can take Jesus in communion. You get rid of that bad stuff to make plenty of space for Jesus, to lighten us for him. That is what you did in that confession and every time you go to confession.

Gravity of sin takes many forms, particular for us adults, as you are pretty light right now. We adults sometime get a little heavy with sin as we age. Confession is a diet to make us light again.

Our participation in Jesus' ascension begins not by looking up but by looking within.

Jesus, though, did not just leave us to be alone. He left us the Holy Spirit so that he could hear every child's prayer, your prayers, that he would take to Jesus. Now, we can't see his face like his disciples, but he did leave us something to always remember him.

Do you know what that might be? His visible presence is now passed into the sacraments, and esp in the Eucharist. But we can only see him with our eyes of faith. We have to believe he is always with us, that he will never leave us to be alone. In communion, he will be inside of you, and if you love him, you will be inside of him.

Now, are there any particular meals that you really like made by mom or dad? My mom is a very good cook, let me say this on Mother's Day, though I probably didn't appreciate it as much at your age, but I do now. Do you have any favorite meals your mom/dad made for you?

So, when I ever eat something that someone has prepared for me like my mom did for me, my first taste of it reminds me of my mom. That is why Jesus had his last supper with his disciples, bread and wine, so that when they ate it again, they would remember him. And he passes this on to you, to always remember he is alive and with you.

And when you get old enough, he will ask you to pass this on to your children. That is what your parents are doing for you today and hopefully one day, you will do the same.