

Motivation for John 17:11-19

This Thursday we will celebrate the Ascension of the Lord and the Sunday after next is the great feast of Pentecost. Let us give thanks to the Lord for the liturgy that guides us and teaches us, opening our minds and our hearts to understand the mystery of our salvation, ever deeper, year after year. Never think you already know but listen! with the ear of your heart.

The Gospel of the Ascension will speak about “signs” which accompany those who believe. What are those signs? Have you seen them in your life? Or in the life of others? The Lord is gone, but his presence is continually revealed to us in these signs. The Lord is gone, in a sense, and yet his presence is magnetically and irresistibly pulling us up towards him.

The Gospel of the 7th Sunday of Easter will further explain to us our present situation: in the world, but not of the world, set apart for Christ. We have been raised up with him in Baptism. Now we are called in hope to where he has preceded us in glory. Watch out for the very last verse! It is about you and me, here and now. What does it say? What is it saying to you?