

Ascension of Jesus Christ

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The Day of Ascension, is celebrated in many European countries by being a public holiday. Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Finland, France, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Luxemburg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Austria, Sweden and Switzerland are honouring the Ascension of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

... and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father

After his resurrection from the dead Jesus appeared to men for a period of forty days after which he «was taken up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God» (Mk 16:19; see also Lk 24:50 and Acts 1:9-11).

The ascension of Jesus Christ is the final act of his earthly mission of salvation. The Son of God comes «down from heaven» to do the work which the Father gives him to do; and having accomplished all things, he returns to the Father bearing for all eternity the wounded and glorified humanity which he has assumed (see e.g. Jn 17).

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