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We read in St. Mark's text about many situations that would not harm believers and that their efforts would be effective. Neither serpents nor poison would hurt them and when the disciples placed their hands on the sick, they would be cured.

Initially read, these statements may seem farfetched. Would God really protect us from these deadly situations? God is always concerned about his followers' safety and powers. During Jesus' era, people accepted these statements as eloquent prophecies. In many parts of our planet, even today, these words still carry a lot of weight. In fact, the Christian faith is migrating towards southern nations where peoples' understanding of the Lord's power as protector and healer is very acute. Many nations have promoted and validated the faith.

Actually, no one is asking us to handle serpents to confirm our faith. Yet, we should not neglect the scope of these images that focus on our fears. Our lives are complex and we could easily fall off track. On this Ascension Sunday, it is truly comforting to remember that the Lord works and supports us. God is as present and active today as in days gone by through the Holy Spirit's support and guidance. Believers work together to *grow* the fragile Church as the early Christians did.

Alain Faucher, priest

Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli



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Sunday May 13, 2018 Ascension of the Lord

Today we celebrate the anniversary of our autonomy. In fact, We are heirs of the first Christians and thus involved in this transfer of responsibilities. Similar to a situation when adolescents find themselves suddenly put in charge of the home in the absence of adults. This can be both exhilarating and at the same time somewhat challenging. Jesus' friends inherited a tremendous responsibility: to make the world a better place, one that would be more human and divine. If they could not complete this task, who could they blame? We are now the "ones in charge". We deal with *what works* and change *what doesn't*. No more excuses, no more following someone else's lead...

Yet, Jesus made sure that his friends had the necessary strength and guidance. The Holy Spirit would always be present and help the disciples proceed courageously. They would be able to communicate with inspirational *language*. They could foresee *success*. It's our turn to invest the time and energy to dominate evil and allow good to prevail... The last words of St. Mark's Gospel are fascinating as evil has already lost the battle. Our future with the Risen Lord is assured.

The Week at a Glance

Sun May 13 9:00 am Mass in Carrot River **For †Fr Roland Gaudet**
 11:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For the people**

Mon May 14 *Fr Travis' day off*

Tues May 15 9:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For †Theresa Aden**

Wed May 16 9:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For †Simone Bazinet**

Thurs May 17 6:00pm Adoration in Carrot River
 7:00pm Mass in Carrot River

Fri May 18 10:00am Mass in Arborfield Care Home **For Sr Theresa St Pierre**
 5:00pm Confirmation practice in Carrot River
 7:00pm Adoration in Zenon Park
 8:00pm Mass in Zenon Park **For †Gilles Favreau**

Sat May 19 7:30pm Mass in Arborfield **For †Matthew Munson**

Sun May 20 9:00 am Mass in Carrot River **For †Aurelien Gaudet**
 Confirmation Mass in Carrot River All are welcome
 11:00am Mass in Zenon Park **For the people**
 5:00pm Mass at Bosco Camp

Mass Times for May/June

Sat 7:30pm – Arborfield
 Sun 9:00am – Carrot River
 Sun 11:00am – Zenon Park

Last week's collection total: **\$ 510.00**

Special collection Papal charities **\$330.00 Thank You**

There will be a Parish **Pastoral council meeting** Tuesday,
 May 15, 2018 @ 7:30pm

Announcements and Activities

<u>Ministry</u>	<u>May 12</u>	<u>May 19</u>
Commentator	Liz	Marie
Reader	Mary	Jeanne
Cup	Neil, James	Guy, Sue
Hospitality	Flo, James	Liz, Guy
Offerings	Liz, Guy	Gabe, Mary
Sacristan	Mary	Jeanne

Cleaning Schedule

May 14 - 20, 2018	Neil & Lorraine Playford
May 21 - 27, 2018	Don & Jeanne Hoiland

