

Ascension Day

What happened before Ascension Day?

On Good Friday, Jesus was crucified on a cross and then buried in a tomb. He was resurrected on what is now known as Easter Sunday. For the forty days following this, He visited a selection of different people, including His disciples.

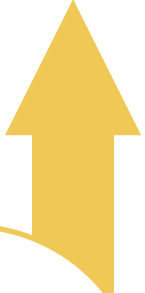


Why is it called Ascension Day and when is it?

The 40th day after Easter was the final day when Jesus was seen. On this day, He visited His disciples. This day upon which he was taken to heaven is called Ascension Day. The day is also known as the Feast of Ascension or Holy Thursday as it always falls on this day of the week.

On Ascension Day, when Jesus made his final visit, He told His disciples he would always be with them, as well as promising them the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Ten days later, the disciples were visited by the 'Holy Spirit, on a day which is now known as Pentecost. The Holy Spirit is often symbolised as a dove.

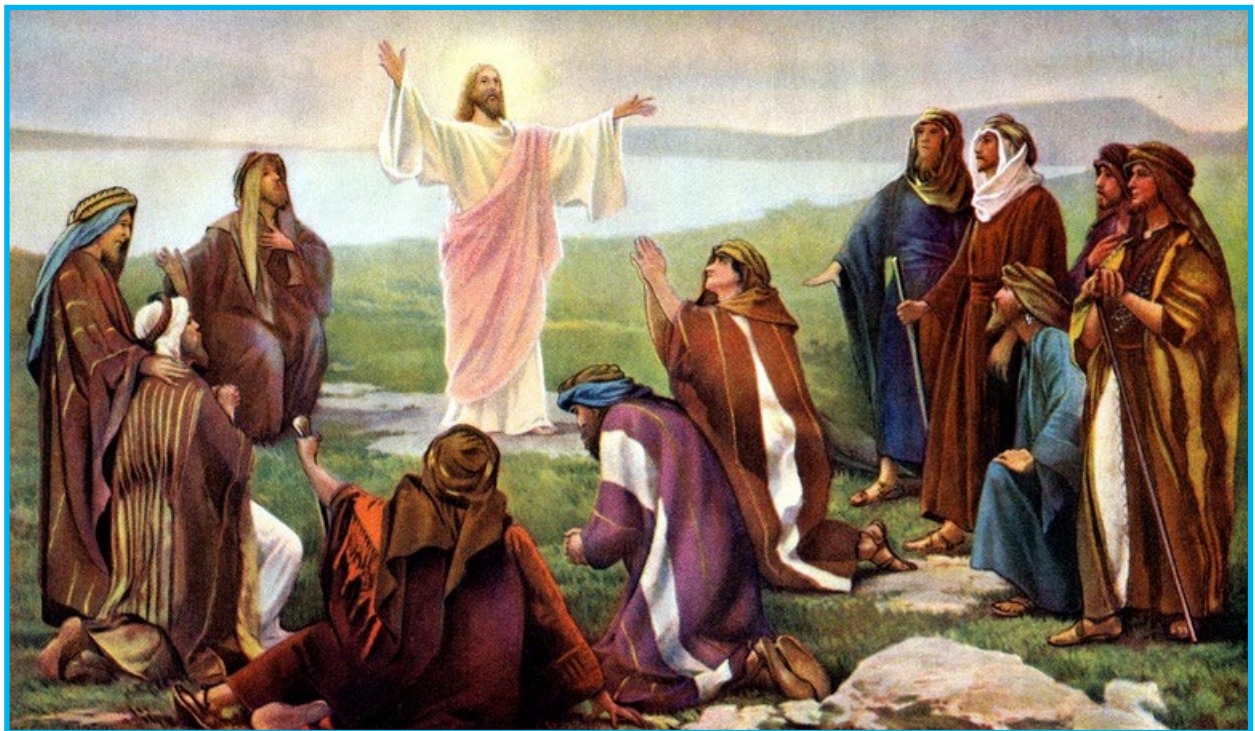


'Ascension'
means rising to a
higher level.

How is Ascension Day celebrated?

The celebration of Ascension Day is an important date in the Christian church. It is a day when Christian people celebrate that Jesus was king. There are church services held where the flowers are white and gold. There are also church services held on the following Sunday as it is the traditional day of rest.

In some countries, Ascension Day is a public holiday and schools are closed. In Germany, Father's Day is on the same day as Ascension Day.



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Questions

1. Where was Jesus taken on Ascension Day?

2. Find and copy one word which means variety.

3. On which day does Ascension Day always fall?

4. Why are some schools closed on Ascension Day?

5. How is the Holy Spirit symbolised?

6. Why do you think it is called Ascension Day?

Answers

1. Where was Jesus taken on Ascension Day?

On Ascension Day, Jesus was taken to heaven.

2. Find and copy one word which means variety.

Selection

3. On which day does Ascension Day always fall?

Ascension Day always falls on a Thursday.

4. Why are some schools closed on Ascension Day?

Some schools are closed on Ascension Day because it is a public holiday in some countries.

5. How is the Holy Spirit symbolised?

The Holy Spirit is symbolised as a dove.

6. Why do you think it is called Ascension Day?

It is called Ascension Day because ascend means rising up. Jesus rose up into heaven.

Answers may vary. There needs to be reference to the meaning of ascend and where Jesus ascended to.