



# Prayer Poems

Poetic Reflections for Sundays and Feastsdays  
by Sister Juliemarie McDonald, SND

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## Ascension

by SR. JULIEMARIE MCDONALD, SND on [05/17/2012](#)  
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Jesus said to his disciples: “Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature.” (Mark 16:15 )

### A Prayer Poem by Sister Juliemarie McDonald, SND for the Feast of the Ascension, Cycle B

(Note: At the discretion of your bishop, this solemnity may be celebrated on Thursday, May 17 or on Sunday, May 20.)

This day Jesus, the Good Shepherd, leaves earth and ascends to heaven.  
Mary, the apostles and disciples climbed the mountain, like sheep following a shepherd.

Reaching the top, the group listened attentively to Jesus' last words.

A second seeming death, one of final separation, descended upon the followers of the Way.

As they gazed upward, a cloud began to envelop their beloved Shepherd.

Many had journeyed in his footsteps,

now they watched as his feet became one with the cloud.

## About Sr. Juliemarie McDonald, SND

Sister Juliemarie McDonald joined the Sisters of Notre Dame of Chardon, Ohio in 1951. She holds an MA in English Studies from John Carroll University MA in Scripture from St. Charles Seminary. After 32 years of teaching classes ranging from first grade to college level, she then became a researcher, campus minister, director of religious education and a pastoral minister in Mease Hospital in Dunedin, Florida. In her semi-retirement, Sister Juliemarie writes reflections and faith sharing sessions for the young sisters in formation in Africa, Philippines, Korea, India and the USA. Her spare time is spent as a crafter.



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All gazed, eyes searching in that last glimpse.  
Mixed feelings of awe, sadness and yet unspeakable joy flooded their hearts.

“Two men dressed in white garments” interrupted their stupor. “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky?” (Acts 1:11a)

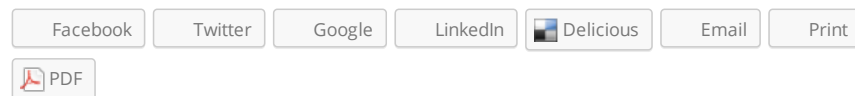
This day Mary became their Shepherdess!  
She nudged Peter and all followed Mary down the mountain,  
The Shepherdess led them to the upper room to await the Holy Spirit.  
Jesus had given them a mission. Preach, teach, heal.  
Share the Good News to all the nations.

And you dear followers of Jesus, do you find yourselves,  
standing in a stupor, caught up and stressed out?  
You, too, have been baptized with a mission.  
With unspeakable joy embrace your discipleship.  
Preach, teach and heal with your giftedness  
from the Holy Spirit.

### For Reflection and Sharing:

1. To whom is Jesus sending you to share the gospel?
2. How will you accomplish this mission of preaching, teaching and healing?
3. Where is your upper room and how will you prepare for the Spirit's coming?

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**Sister Helen Chasae** May 17, 2012 at 9:45 am



Dear Sister Juliemarie,  
Happy Ascension Day! Thank you for your message to encourage us to be instruments of Jesus' mission to preach, teach, and heal.  
Please pray for my brother, Albert, for healing. Thank you so much.

## About the Sisters of Notre Dame, Chardon, Ohio

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Grateful love and prayers,  
Sr. Helen

REPLY

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**Sr. Ellen Beebe** May 19, 2012 at 9:49 pm



Julie Marie, I like very much the thought of Mary taking some leadership here!  
Thank you!

REPLY

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