

Exaudi

Exaudi comes from the Latin for “Hear!”, the first word in the Introit for today. From Psalm 27, the Words of David are “Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice, have mercy upon me and answer me. When you said ‘Seek My Face’, my heart said to You ‘Your Face, O Lord, I will seek.’ Do not hide your face from me.” These Words, written a thousand years before the Ascension of our Lord, give voice to the Church, who yearns for Her Ascended Lord, looking heavenward, praying for His final Epiphany. But the Promise of the same Lord in the Gospel reading for Exaudi is that it is God the Spirit that will come to His Church, soon to be given on the Feast of Pentecost. So today as we enter the Nave we note that the Paschal Candle, lit at Easter Vigil to represent the Light of Christ in the world, is now removed – for a time the Light is not seen, for He is Ascended and sits at the Right Hand of the Father.

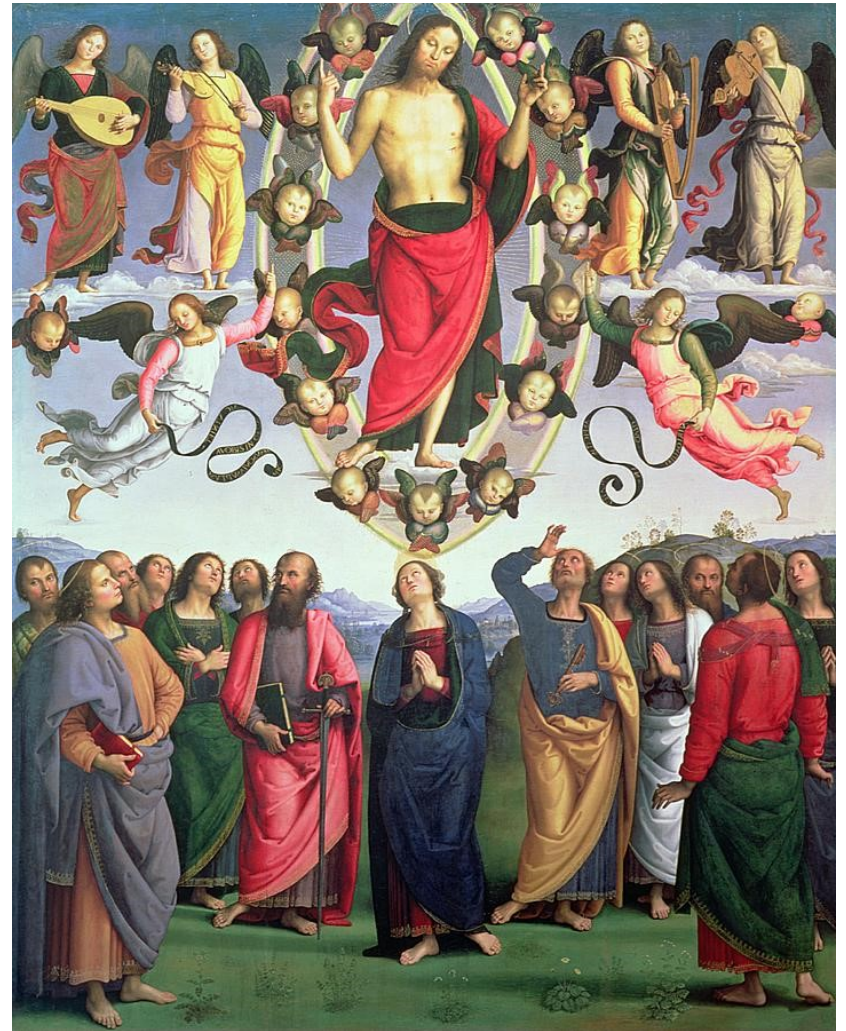
Cover Art – *The Ascension of Christ*

Pietro Perugino, 1496 A.✠ D.

In the Collection of

Musée Municipal des Beaux-Arts, Lyon, France

Pietro Perugino was an Italian Renaissance painter of the Umbrian School, a group of artists active in Umbria, Italy. Perugino developed a style that ultimately found expression in “High Renaissance” art. His most famous pupil was Raphael.



The Sunday after The Ascension