

Homily Ascension/First Holy Communion, 7/8 May 2016

Once upon a time there was a little boy about your age. His Mum loved him and his dad loved him. But he also had this deep sense, inside himself, that somebody else loved him as well.

In fact this sense of love was so strong that sometimes he just couldn't contain it. He had to tell people about this love. He had to show them this love. He had to make it real for people. This love was so strong that he was even able to heal people and make them better again.

Not everybody was pleased at all this. Some people started to bully him and make fun of him. But, however unkind they were, he kept on loving them. When he was a bit older they decided to get rid of him once and for all. They nailed him to a cross and allowed him to die.

But that, of course, is not the end of the story. That man, that love is still alive.

That man is going to give you his body and blood.

That man is now going to give you his love and his joy.

This story of love, of death, of celebration, is the story of the universe, the cosmos, the story of life itself. But as well as being this mega-story, it is also your story and my story, a story made real in bread and wine.

"Behold I am with you always," says Jesus, "even to the end of the age".
Alleluia.

Fr Michael