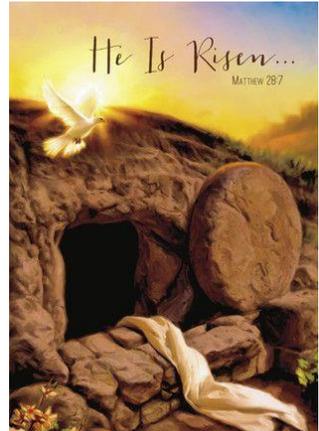


HOLY WEEK AT HOME' EASTER DAY



Introduction

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Imagine the utter shock of visiting the tomb of a loved one to find it empty.

John's Gospel notes that even Simon Peter and the disciple whom Jesus loved did not understand what had happened. Perhaps this is an invitation for each of us to think

deeply about what the Resurrection means in our own lives. The Easter Sunday liturgy celebrates Resurrection through the lens of discipleship. We hear the Gospel story of Mary and the disciples running to the tomb and have the opportunity to profess our faith.

Create a prayer space full of greenery and flowers.

Opening Prayer:

Loving God,

We celebrate this day of gladness and rejoicing,
basking in the depth of your love
revealed in an empty tomb.

May we, like the disciples, make haste
to share the news of Resurrection with everyone we
encounter.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Reading: Matthew 28.1-10 and the accompanying reflection.

Profession of Faith: We proclaim the Apostle's Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

Intercessions:

Confident that the living God is truly present in our lives,
we raise our petitions, confident that they will be heard.

Pray the intercessions accompanying this liturgy.

The Lord's Prayer:

Gathering these prayers together,
as well as those we hold in the silence of our hearts,
we pray in the words that Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
 now and for ever. Amen.

Prayer:

Loving God,
 We celebrate the life and love that you proclaim and share
 with us.
 May we know the joy of your Resurrection in our hearts
 as we strive to share this joy with others.
 Like Mary, Simon Peter and the beloved disciple,
 may we run to spread the Good News of the life and love
 you share.
 We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

All are invited to share a sign of Christ's peace.

Conversation Starters

1. What images, words, or phrases do you associate with Easter Sunday?
2. What are some important Easter traditions in your own family?
3. Where do you encounter the Risen Christ?

Continuing the Conversation

As you celebrate the Easter season, take time to notice the daily experience of resurrection and new life. Share these moments with your family and friends at the end of each day or week. You might be surprised how much new life permeates our world!

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