

# *The Resurrection of the Lord*

## *(Easter Sunday)*

### **Suggested Materials:**

Bible

Small bowl of water (Holy Water if available)

Optional: flowers

### **Suggested Hymns:**

[All Creatures of Our God and King](#)

[I Am the Bread of Life](#)

[Jesus Christ Is Risen Today](#)

[Hallelujah, My Father](#)

[Christ the Lord Is Risen Today](#)

[Three Days](#)

### **Introduction**

Christ is risen! Alleluia! When we read today's Gospel it is easy for us to laugh at Mary of Magdala. How could she not have known that Jesus had risen? Sometimes we have to remind ourselves that we know how the story goes. 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.

### **Ritual at Home**

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 almost immediately before we have the opportunity to renew our own Baptismal promises as we profess our faith.

*Create a prayer space full of greenery and flowers. On a table that is easily accessible by everyone, place a bowl of Holy Water.*

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: [John 20:1-9](#)

*The above link will take you to the reading on the USCCB website, or you may choose to use your own family Bible.*

Profession of Faith: As we profess our faith, we proclaim the Apostle's Creed:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth;

and in Jesus Christ, His 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 into Hell;  
on the third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into Heaven,  
and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty;  
from thence He shall 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 life everlasting.  
Amen.

*After the communal recitation of the Apostle's Creed, each person is welcome to sign themselves with the Holy Water, recalling the waters of Baptism and our commitment to life in Christ. You might wish to play some soft, instrumental music in the background during this ritual signing.*

*\*\*We recognize that many families will not have access to Holy Water; if that is your case, a simple bowl of water will work.*

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

For Pope Francis and all church leaders: May they guide the faithful with the  
patience and kindness the Risen Christ shows to the disciples. We pray to  
the Lord.

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who support and nurture life, especially healthcare workers, teachers, and public servants: May they find joy in their vocation of service to others. We pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who celebrate new beginnings this Easter season: May they know life and love in their experiences and opportunities. We pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who work for equality and justice: May they never tire of proclaiming the peace of Christ. We pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who are sad or suffering during this time of Easter Alleluias: May they find the consolation of Christ through all those who love and support them.

We pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our own needs this day: *Prayers may be offered aloud.* We pray to the Lord.

All: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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 . . .**

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!