

Prayer at Home
Easter Sunday
April 12, 2020

Notes/Instructions

- This may be prayed alone or as a family depending on how many people are in your home.
- You may gather at your kitchen table or at a prayer space in your home.
- Individuals may take turns proclaiming the readings.
- If you have a candle, family Bible, crucifix, etc., you may place them in the middle of your table/prayer space.
- If you have never led prayer before, do not worry. God always appreciates our efforts.
- You may remain seated for the entire prayer, but if you have children it may be helpful to stand for the Gather, Gospel Reading, and Sending Forth. If you are able, you may wish to kneel to pray the Spiritual Communion together.

Gather

Prayer Leader:

O God, who on this day, through your Only Begotten Son,
have conquered death and unlocked for us the path to eternity,
grant, we pray,
that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection may,
through the renewal brought by your Spirit,
rise up in the light of life.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Listen

First Reading: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (Acts of the Apostle 10: 34a, 37-43)
(Peter's discourse)

Peter proceeded to speak and said:
"You know what has happened all over Judea,
beginning in Galilee after the baptism
that John preached,
how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth
with the Holy Spirit and power.
He went about doing good
and healing all those oppressed by the devil,
for God was with him.
We are witnesses of all that he did
both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem.
They put him to death by hanging him on a tree.

This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible,
not to all the people, but to us,
the witnesses chosen by God in advance,
who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.
He commissioned us to preach to the people
and testify that he is the one appointed by God
as judge of the living and the dead.
To him all the prophets bear witness,
that everyone who believes in him
will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

(Psalm 118: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23)

Our response is: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his mercy endures forever.
Let the house of Israel say,
"His mercy endures forever."

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

"The right hand of the LORD has struck with power;
the right hand of the LORD is exalted.
I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD."

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.
By the LORD has this been done;
it is wonderful in our eyes.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Second Reading: A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians.

(Colossians 3: 1-4)

(mystical death and resurrection)

Brothers and sisters:

If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above,

where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.
Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.
For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
When Christ your life appears,
then you too will appear with him in glory.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation:

If you prefer a sung Alleluia follow this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UoaZq5eorpo>

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed;
Let us then feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Link to YouTube Video of Gospel for Children: <https://youtu.be/XOgKAAuEpcE>

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. (John 20: 1-9)
(Peter and the disciple at the tomb)

On the first day of the week,
Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning,
while it was still dark,
and saw the stone removed from the tomb.
So she ran and went to Simon Peter
and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them,
“They have taken the Lord from the tomb,
and we don’t know where they put him.”
So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb.
They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter
and arrived at the tomb first;
he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in.
When Simon Peter arrived after him,
he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there,
and the cloth that had covered his head,
not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place.
Then the other disciple also went in,
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,

and he saw and believed.
For they did not yet understand the Scripture
that he had to rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Respond

Key Passage: Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first went in, and he saw and believed. (John 20: 8)

Reflection Questions

Adult: How can you show this week that you truly believe in the resurrection of Jesus?

Child: To whom could you tell the story of Jesus' rising from the dead?

Prayer Leader: Uniting our prayers as one we pray together the words Jesus gave us:
Our Father . . .

Spiritual Communion

(Pray this prayer together)

Prayer Leader: Let us pray.

All: My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.

Sending Forth

Prayer Leader: May almighty God bless all of us
through today's Easter Solemnity
and, in his compassion,
defend us from every assault of sin.
Amen.

And may he, who restores us to eternal life
in the Resurrection of his Only Begotten,
endow us with the prize of immortality.
Amen.

Now that the days of the Lord's Passion have drawn to a close,
May we who celebrate the gladness of the Paschal Feast
Come with Christ's help, and exulting in spirit,
To those feasts that are celebrated in eternal joy.
Amen.

Prayer Leader: May almighty God bless us in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.