

Alleluia! Sing out with joy for the Easter miracle. The Lord is risen. We have been redeemed. Death no longer has ultimate power over us. We anticipate the day when we too will be raised with Christ. As baptized Christians, we have already been raised. We have been raised out of the ashes of despair, raised up to the luminosity of salvation. “This is the day the Lord has made;” we sing in the responsorial psalm, “let us rejoice and be glad.” Let us be nourished in the Eucharist today so that we may go forth joyfully witnessing to the Resurrection of the Lord.

As we gather together let us begin our service by professing what we believe.

Profession of Faith: Page 20

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (bow as we say) and by the Holy Spirit he was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Introductory Rite:

Greeting:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed be God for ever.

Penitential Rite:

My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves for this celebration, let us call to mind our sins.

Lord Jesus, risen Son of God, you were anointed by God with the Holy Spirit and power: Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, risen Son of God, you are the paschal Lamb who redeems us: Christ, have mercy

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, risen Son of God, you will come again to judge the living and the dead: Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Opening Prayer:

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.**

Liturgy of the Word:First Reading Page 210

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

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 GodResponsorial Psalm Page 210*Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23*

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

R/. 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." **R/.**

"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." **R/.**

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

Second Reading Page 212

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians

Colossians 3:1-4

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 Page 214

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*John 20:1-9***Glory to you, O Lord**

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.

Reflection on the Word:

“This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad” (Psalm 118:24). Unfortunately, this joyful feeling can be difficult to sustain. Will we still rejoice tomorrow if it means returning to a dispiriting job or a vindictive boss? Will we still be glad this afternoon if we end up in the middle of a family conflict? Will we still be grateful if we have no family or career and spend day after day alone without companionship? Paul’s words to the Colossians may help: “Think of what is above, not of what is on earth” (Colossians 3:2). The Son of God came to earth to teach us, to heal us, and finally to save us. Through our baptism we share in his mission and his promise. No matter our situation in life, we have been redeemed.

There is an awful lot of running in today’s Gospel. Mary Magdalene sees the stone rolled away and runs in alarm to Simon Peter and the beloved disciple. They both immediately run to the tomb to see what happened. We are told the beloved disciple ran faster and arrived first. Finally the action slows down once Simon Peter arrives. But they are undoubtedly out of breath and their minds are still racing. At this point, none of them understood what happened. Still the beloved disciple believed. He did not understand the Resurrection, but possibly he believed that somehow Jesus returned to the Father. His understanding was still running to catch up, but his belief had already arrived.

Belief comes to the beloved disciple, not with the presence of Jesus, an angel, or any witnesses, but in their absence. They see the displaced stone, the open tomb, and the discarded burial cloths. That Jesus has risen is beyond their understanding, but the beloved disciple believes. We identify with him, for we have also come to believe without seeing. We may not understand, but through the eyes of faith, we believe.

Question - How can I come to a deeper and firmer belief? How can I guide others in their faith?

Prayer of the Faithful:

On this holiest of days, when we celebrate Jesus’ resurrection from death to new life, we ask that God bring new life to us, those we love, and the whole world.

- For the Church, that we may proclaim the hope and promise of Christ’s resurrection in everything we do, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For those entrusted with leading their countries, that they may work to bring peace to nations ravaged by war and prosperity to areas devastated by poverty, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For those whose lives are threatened by violence, chronic illness, or sudden trauma, that in their ordeal they may be embraced by God, the source of everlasting life, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For those who were welcomed into the Church at the Easter Vigil, that they may grow in faith and holiness and be a light to us all of the constant renewal of the body of Christ, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For all of us in this assembly, that we may always rejoice in the Lord’s resurrection and realize the salvation he won for us, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For what else should we pray? _____ let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

- For all the prayers that we hold in the silence of our hearts; for all our intentions spoken and unspoken, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

God of life and love, you have redeemed us through the sacrifice of your Son. Your generosity with life and love is without bound. Hear the prayers we offer and grant them in the name of your Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Communion RiteThe Lord's Prayer: Page 152

Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Rite of Peace:

The sign of peace outwardly expresses a deep spiritual reality; through this sign we acknowledge Christ's presence in each other and share the peace we have received from Him. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Communion:

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

The body of Christ. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion:

Look upon your Church, O God, with unfailing love and favor, so that renewed by the paschal mysteries, she may come to the glory of the resurrection.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Concluding Rite:Final Blessing:

May the Lord bless us,  protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ! **Thanks be to God.**