

Prayers and Blessings at Home

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

April 1, 2018



Scripture Readings

Acts 10:34a, 37–43

Psalm 118:1–2, 16–17,
22–23 (24)

Colossians 3:1–4 or 1
Corinthians 5:6b–8

Sequence: *Victimae paschali
laudes*

John 20:1–9 or Mark 16:1–7 or
Luke 24:13–35

Easter Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
when your disciples laid you in the tomb
it seemed like the end of all their hopes,
but you rose from death to everlasting life.
May your Resurrection change our lives.
May your victory give us courage
and strength.

May your love make us more loving to
each other.

Who live and reign with God the Father in the
unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen. Alleluia!

Examination of Conscience

☺ As we enter into this joyous season of
Easter Time, how did I do in meeting my
goals for Lent in the areas of fasting, prayer,
and almsgiving?

☺ Am I consciously working to spread the
good news that Jesus overcame sin and
death? Do I use words or my actions?

Did You Know?

. . . last night at the Easter Vigil, the Church
throughout the world welcomed new members
to the Body of Christ through the Initiation
Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and
Eucharist? If you have never been to an
Easter Vigil service before, make a resolution
to attend it at your parish next year, for it is
quite a powerful experience.

Living the Liturgy at Home

Easter does not last for only one day. It is an
entire season that runs for fifty days from Easter
Sunday through Pentecost Sunday. With your
family, construct an Easter season calendar.
Mark each of the Sundays and their respective
readings from Mass. Highlight some of the major
feast days that fall during the season: April 9,
Annunciation of the Lord; April 25, Feast of St.
Mark; May 3, Feast of Sts. Philip and James;
May 10 or 13, Ascension of the Lord (depending
on your diocese). Together, decide on how you
commemorate these special days or Sundays.
Or, determine a service project that all of you
can do to celebrate Jesus' conquering death and
rising to new life.

Prayers and Blessings at Home

Second Sunday of Easter /

Divine Mercy Sunday

April 8, 2018



Scripture Readings

Acts 4:32–35

Psalm 118:2–4, 13–15,
22–24 (1)

1 John 5:1–6

John 20:19–31

Easter Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
when your disciples laid you in the tomb
it seemed like the end of all their hopes,
but you rose from death to everlasting life.
May your Resurrection change our lives.
May your victory give us courage
and strength.
May your love make us more loving to
each other.
You live and reign with the Father and the
Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen. Alleluia!

Examination of Conscience

- © What are some practical steps and spiritual observances that I can cultivate to help strengthen my faith life?
- © How often do I seek God's mercy by partaking in the Sacrament of Reconciliation?

Did You Know?

. . . that St. Francis of Assisi experienced a miracle known as the stigmata? His faith in Christ was so great that he was rewarded with the wounds of Christ on his own body. Legend has it that he encountered a soldier named Jerome who was skeptical of the news of Francis having these wounds until he could see them for himself.

Living the Liturgy at Home

Doubt seems to be a natural human reaction, especially when it comes to matters of faith. Think of people in your family or friends of yours who have real doubts of faith. Pray that they may be able to have a conversion of faith. Discuss with your parents what your own doubts might be and how you can work towards strengthening your faith. Talk about those you know who have their own real doubts and see how you can reach out to them. Perhaps you can invite them to join you for Sunday Mass. Try and share the Good News of Christ that you have come to know with them.

Prayers and Blessings at Home

Third Sunday of Easter

April 15, 2018



Scripture Readings

Acts 3:13–15, 17–19

Psalm 4:2, 4, 7–8, 9 (7a)

1 John 2:1–5a

Luke 24:35–48

Easter Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
when your disciples laid you in the tomb
it seemed like the end of all their hopes,
but you rose from death to everlasting life.
May your Resurrection change our lives.
May your victory give us courage
and strength.
May your love make us more loving to
each other.

Who live and reign with God the Father in the
unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen. Alleluia!

Examination of Conscience

☉ The mission of all Christians is to be a witness to God's love. How do I carry out this mission?

☉ Sometimes doubt or fear creeps in the heart and weakens faith. Do I sometimes feel unsettled by doubt or fear? To whom can I turn to help me feel more at peace and trust in the Lord?

Did You Know?

. . . that throughout the Easter season, we rejoice in our Baptism and our membership in the Church? At Mass during this season, we may celebrate a Rite of Sprinkling instead of the Penitential Rite. During the rite we are sprinkled with holy water to remind us of the Baptismal waters that made us members of Christ's Body in the Church.

Living the Liturgy at Home

We all say we want peace. Are we willing to do the work needed to be a true peacemaker? Do we speak or act in the ways of peace? Are our thoughts peaceful? This week, be intentional about promoting peace around you. Set an example by not engaging in gossip, not criticizing or putting others down, or walking away from heated arguments. Pray every day for peace in the world. In what other ways can you promote peace?

Prayers and Blessings at Home

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 22, 2018



Scripture Readings

Acts 4:8–12

Psalm 118:1, 8–9, 21–23, 26,
28, 29 (22)

1 John 3:1–2

John 10:11–18

Easter Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
when your disciples laid you in the tomb
it seemed like the end of all their hopes,
but you rose from death to everlasting life.
May your Resurrection change our lives.
May your victory give us courage
and strength.
May your love make us more loving to
each other.

Who live and reign with God the Father in the
unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen. Alleluia!

Examination of Conscience

☉ Jesus uses the image of the Good Shepherd to describe his relationship with us. How does this image resonate with me as a Catholic Christian? Am I able to trust in Jesus as my Good Shepherd? If so, why? If not, why not?

☉ Jesus exemplifies servant leadership. How might I help guide others in their own faith lives as a companion on the journey of faith?

Did You Know?

. . . the first people to whom the birth of Jesus was announced by an angel were shepherds tending their sheep? These shepherds would have known exactly what it took to be a good shepherd for those sheep in their care. They responded to this good news and joyfully paid homage to the newborn King, Jesus.

Living the Liturgy at Home

Parents are called to be good shepherds for their children. God calls children to recognize and respect their parents' authority and to work together for the good of the family. How have your parents guided you? How have you shown respect for them and trusted in their guidance?

Prayers and Blessings at Home

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 29, 2018



Scripture Readings

Acts 9:26–31

Psalm 22:26–27, 28, 30,
31–32 (26a)

1 John 3:18–24

John 15:1–8

Easter Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
when your disciples laid you in the tomb
it seemed like the end of all their hopes,
but you rose from death to everlasting life.
May your Resurrection change our lives.
May your victory give us courage
and strength.
May your love make us more loving to
each other.

Who live and reign with God the Father in the
unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen. Alleluia!

Examination of Conscience

☉ What are the dead branches, the major
things in my life that need to be cut away so
that I can be more alive in Christ?

☉ What are the things that need to be
pruned, what have been life-giving but need
to be tended to so that they can continue to
bear good fruit?

Did You Know?

. . . that the image of a vine is something
that would have been very familiar to those
who were following Jesus? Good grapes that
were harvested were not only eaten, they
were also used to make wine. We read of
Jesus sharing wine with others throughout
his experiences of table fellowship: from the
wedding feast at Cana all the way to his
Last Supper.

Living the Liturgy at Home

Construct a “family vine” at home to help guide
you and your family to serve as disciples of
Jesus better. Using a large poster board and
markers, draw a picture of a green vine that is
representative of Jesus connecting all of us.
Invite your family to join you in drawing various
branches that spring from this vine. Use the color
brown to represent branches that are not giving
good fruit and need to be cut out entirely. Use
green for branches that are producing good fruit
but that need pruning so that they can continue
to bear these fruits. On each of these branches,
both brown and green, write a little description of
what it represents.