

Easter Vigil at Home (Saturday PM)



On Easter day you are encouraged to use you 'worship at home' booklet, follow the readings and make an act of spiritual communion. Tonight we join with Christians across the world as we watch, wait and rejoice in Christ's resurrection.

This liturgy can be done by an individual or a small group with people sharing the prayers and words amongst them. It follows the liturgy that happens in churches during the Easter vigil.

We begin in near darkness. We light a candle to read by.

Eternal God,
who made this most holy night
to shine with the brightness of your one true light:
set us aflame with the fire of your love,
and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Spend some time in silence between the readings

Reading 1: Genesis 1.1 – 2.4a The Creation

Reading 2: Genesis 3 The Fall

Reading 3: Exodus 14 Crossing the Red Sea

Reading 4: Daniel 6.1-24 Daniel in the lions' den

For Christ the morning star has risen in glory;
Christ is risen from the dead and his flame of love still burns within us!
Christ sheds his peaceful light on all the world!
Christ lives and reigns for ever and ever! Amen

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Turn on all the lights in the room... and even the house! Then return and continue by saying the Gloria. If you can you might put a candle in the window(s) of your house.

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen

Reading: Matthew 28.1 - 10

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

May God, who has given us the desire to follow Christ,
give you the strength to continue in the Way.

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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.

Spend some time offering your own prayers to God, praying most especially for all that we have to give thanks for.

You are strongly encouraged to make an act of spiritual communion as detailed in your 'praying at home booklet'.

Closing Prayers

God of Life,
who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son
to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
have delivered us from the power of our enemy:
grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

✠ May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, now and evermore.
Amen

Happy Easter to you all. There will certainly be services on the radio and a streamed service on Facebook tomorrow morning and you are encouraged to join in those as far as you can. At the least please use your praying at home booklets to make an act of spiritual communion on Easter day. Oh... and enjoy your Easter Egg.

Remember that Christians greet each other on Easter and afterwards with the words below:

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

