

HOLY WEEK: A GUIDE for PRAYER in the HOME

United with men and women of faith throughout the world, we gather in prayer on these sacred and holy days. As we look forward to returning to our church for Mass, we remember that in every generation there are inspiring examples of faithful and holy Catholics who have been deprived of Mass even for many years. Some are deprived of Mass because of persecution. Others because they are elderly or disabled or sick. Some are homebound or hospitalized or in prison, still others isolated in remote areas or prevented because of military service or the shortage of priests. In our own situation today, as we pray for protection from the spread of contagious disease, we humbly ask the Lord for healing and for His loving grace in this time of need. May our time of prayer at home glorify the Lord as we place our trust in His merciful love. Our time of prayer, separated and yet united, expresses our faith, hope and love. Our faith will endure. God is with us. He is a good shepherd -- He will never abandon His sheep. We give thanks for our Catholic Faith. We are united in prayer with our Pastor, Our Bishop, our Pope, and with all men and women of faith, those in this world, those who have died, and with all the angels and saints in Heaven.

PALM SUNDAY

Opening Words:

Since the beginning of Lent until now we have prepared our hearts by penance and charitable works. United with the Church throughout the world we honor today the beginning of Holy Week in which we remember our Lord's Paschal Mystery, that is, his suffering, death and Resurrection. For it was to accomplish this mystery that he entered his own city of Jerusalem. With faith and devotion let us commemorate the Lord's entry into Jerusalem for our salvation, following in his footsteps, so that, being made by his grace partakers of the Cross we may have a share also in his Resurrection and in his life.

Part 1: Triumphal Entrance into Jerusalem. Read Aloud Mt. 21:1-11

You may wish to hold palm or olive or other branches. Blessed palms will be distributed at church at a later date.

Today we joyfully acclaim Jesus Christ our Messiah and King. May we reach one day the happiness of the new and everlasting Jerusalem by faithfully following him. Let us praise Jesus as did the crowds who welcomed him to Jerusalem.

Let us Pray: Almighty ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Savior to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Part 2: Liturgy of the Word and Reading of the Passion

Is 50: 4-7

Ps 22: 8-9, 17-20, 23-24 **Response: "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"**

Phil 2: 6-11

Matthew 26: 14 - 27: 66 (or the shorter version: Matthew 27:11-54)

Reflection:

The story of the Passion and Death of the Lord demands our attention because we easily see ourselves in all of the various participants. This year, with whom do you most identify? Peter boasted of great promises to the Lord, but like Peter we quickly find that we fall short of the faithfulness we promise. Judas gave an outward show of devotion as we sometimes do, even though it was not love that was expressed with his kiss. For the times we have been faithful, like the young beloved disciple with Mary at the foot of the cross, we give thanks. Sometimes, like Simon of Cyrene we do the right thing to help someone in need, although it isn't always our own idea and sometimes someone else's burden get placed on our shoulders and we can grow resentful. The soldiers are like those who just laugh and mock at whatever is holy, and they just go along with the cruel vanity of the world, gambling to see who gets more. Except for one Centurion, who was blessed with faith and came to believe. We can be like some of the Jewish leaders who were quick to falsely judge and condemn an innocent man. Or we can be like the Jewish women of Jerusalem, who were moved with tears of grief and compassion. We can be just like Pontius Pilate, or like so many leaders, who change what they believe in based on the opinion of the crowd and who they are trying to impress.

We are Mary Magdalene, well aware of the burden of our sins, a burden removed as we are set free by Christ's infinite love and mercy. We are united with the Sorrowful Heart of Mary when we feel helpless when a loved one is suffering and dying, and all we can hold onto is faith that even in a time of profound pain that God is with us and God is love. On Palm Sunday each year, I wonder whether some of the very same people who shouted "Blessed is He who Comes in the Name of the Lord!" were the ones who shouted "Crucify Him!" just a few days later. How quickly we too can move from devotion and prayer to totally forgetting the Lord and all he has done for us. Jesus said that when he is lifted up, he will draw all people to himself. This week he is lifted high on the cross, and also lifted high from the grave to the right hand of the Father in Heaven. Let us draw near to the Cross today with compassion for the suffering of Christ throughout the world especially in this moment of suffering from a devastating pandemic. In this hour of need, Christ is with us. May he inspire us to greater faith and greater charity to those who are most in need, as we await the glory of the Good News of Easter. We know and believe that Christ will raise us our wounded and hurting world. His cross shows us his mercy. His resurrection shows us his power and his victory.

The Nicene Creed

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,
and by the Holy Spirit 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.

Petitions

1. For the healing power of God as we struggle with sickness and disease. For an end to the spread of coronavirus and other diseases. For all who have suffered sickness and death, and for compassion and mercy for all who live in fear, we pray to the Lord . . . “Lord, Hear Our Prayer”
2. That our appreciation for the Mass and the Eucharist and our hunger and thirst for holiness will increase, we pray to the Lord . . .
3. That this Lent will be a time of spiritual renewal and grace for us all, and especially for the children and adults preparing for Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation, we pray to the Lord . . .
4. For the courage and grace to repent of sin and to live a new life in Christ, we pray to the Lord . . .
5. For all who serve as shepherds in our Church, including Pope Francis, Bishop Joseph, our Pastor . . . , and for our Deacons, religious sisters and spiritual leaders, we pray to the Lord . . .
6. That all who have died will share in the glory of the Resurrection to new life, we pray to the Lord . . .
7. (Mention now your own special needs and intentions and of those gathered with you) . . .

The Lord’s Prayer . . . Our Father Who Art in Heaven

Spiritual Communion

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 the Holy Eucharist, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. I adore you and I praise you Lord, in every Tabernacle and upon every holy altar on earth, because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world. Oh Sacrament Most Holy, Oh Sacrament Divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine!

Let us spend a moment of silent prayer and adoration of the Lord Jesus in our hearts.

Concluding Prayer: Look, O Lord, on this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ did not hesitate to be delivered into the hands of the wicked and submit to the agony of the Cross. We humbly beseech you: as through the death of your Son you brought us to hope for what we believe, so by his Resurrection lead us to where you call. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Holy Thursday

Opening Prayer

O God, who have called us together in honor of the Last Supper, in which your Only Begotten Son, when about to hand himself over to death, entrusted to the Church a sacrifice new for all eternity, the banquet of his love, grant, we pray, that we may draw from so great a mystery the fullness of charity and of life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us take a moment of silence to be sorry for our sins . . .

Lord you are the light that has overcome the darkness. Lord, have mercy. (Lord, have mercy)

You filled the dark tomb with Resurrection and Life. Christ, have mercy. (Christ, have mercy)

With love and forgiveness, You make all things new. Lord, have mercy. (Christ, have mercy)

May Almighty God free us from sin and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest

and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;

you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

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.

LITURGY of the WORD

Exodus 12: 1-8, 11-14

Psalm 116: 12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 Response: "Our blessing-cup is a communion with the blood of Christ."

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

John 13 : 1-15

Reflection

This year, as we give thanks for the great gift of the Holy Mass and Eucharist, we are also motivated by charity to avoid gathering at the altar. As difficult as this is, it makes sense when we realize that the words "Body of Christ" refer not only to Holy Communion but also to the elderly and infirm and all who are most vulnerable in the current crisis. Jesus identifies his own Body with children: "Whoever receives a child in my name receives me." He identifies His own Body with those who are most in need – the hungry, the thirsty, the poor, strangers, prisoners, refugees and the sick. He surely identifies his Body with those most vulnerable to the coronavirus, including the elderly and infirm. We remember his sacred words: "Whatever you do to the least of my people, that you do unto me." It is our hope that our sacrifice this year of staying away from one another may spare as many as possible from great suffering and death.

Please know, as you gather this evening for prayer, that your Bishop and your priests are celebrating Mass for you and presenting your needs at the altar at this very moment. The Mass is not just a remembrance of what Jesus did on the night of the Passover almost 2000 years ago. The Mass is our share in the eternal offering of Jesus Christ in love to the Father through the Holy Spirit. We are the Body of Christ. In offering Himself eternally to the Father, he is also offering his own body, that is, he is offering us. From the Father we have received life and love, mercy and salvation. With Jesus, we offer an eternal sacrifice of praise.

It was in a time of great distress that the Lord celebrated the first Mass. In this time of distress let us take to heart these words from Psalm 116: "I suffered distress and anguish. Then I called on the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray, save my life!" I kept my faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted"; and when I said in my alarm, "no man can be trusted." How can I make a return to the Lord for all the good He has done for me? I will lift up the

saving chalice, and call on the name of the Lord. I will offer you a Eucharistic Sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord.

We trust that soon we will return to the altar, and rejoice once again to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord, the great gift of love he gives to us that comes with a great promise: "Whoever eats my Body and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day." Until that time, may this our sacrifice of isolation be an occasion to remember the great unity we have through the gift of our Faith, the leadership of our Pope and Bishop and Pastors, our charity for those in need, and our hearts united by fervent prayer. The gift of the Mass is the gift of the Lord who unites us together in the Spirit. Let us give thanks for every priest who throughout our lives has celebrated Mass for us and fed us with the Living Bread come down from Heaven. Let us be with them in our hearts as they celebrate Mass for us this evening, and let us pray that soon we will be united again as one family of faith at the altar.

Washing of Feet (in your own way, express charity and service for one another in imitation of Christ)

Nicene Creed

Petitions

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4. For the courage and grace to repent of sin and to live a new life in Christ, we pray to the Lord . . .
5. For all who serve as shepherds in our Church, including Pope Francis, Bishop Joseph, our Pastor . . . , and for our Deacons, religious sisters and spiritual leaders, we pray to the Lord . . .
6. That all who have died will share in the glory of the Resurrection to new life, we pray to the Lord . . .
7. (Mention now your own special needs and intentions and of those gathered with you) . . .

Spiritual Communion

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 the Holy Eucharist, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. I adore you and I praise you Lord, in every Tabernacle and upon every holy altar on earth, because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world. Oh Sacrament Most Holy, Oh Sacrament Divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine!

Lord's Prayer

Concluding Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you give us your body and blood in the Eucharist as a sign that even now we share your life. May we come to possess it completely in the kingdom where you live forever and ever. Amen.

Good Friday – if possible, offer these prayers at 3pm or sometime between Noon and 3pm

If it is safe and appropriate, you may wish to turn off all the lights in your home.

All invited to kneel or to lay prostrate for a moment of silence.

Opening Prayer:

Remember your mercies, O Lord, and with your eternal protection sanctify your servants, for whom Christ your Son, by the shedding of his Blood, established the Paschal Mystery. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word.

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Psalm 31:2,6,12-13,15-16,17,25 Response: **“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”**

Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9

John 18:1 - 19:42

Reflection: The Crucifixion. (A poem by Fr. Gregory Beaumont)

With piercing thorns of searing pain
Could you really hope to gain
The love of all the universe?

Oh Lord who made the sea and sky
Left to hang and there to die
Tell me why you suffered so?

Silence hung upon the sky
As nails into your hands did fly
While in your Heart the love did roar

The lashes stung and loudly cracked
Could stripes of flesh torn off Thy back
Turn a humble heart to Thee?

Silent thunder, hidden light
Emerges forth in Risen Flight
Now at last I understand

You were lifted up on high
And left to hang and there to die
So we might find new life in Thee

Why life up that heavy load and
Walk to Thy death upon the road
Only to be mocked and scorned?

Piercing thorns of searing pain
You welcomed them upon your brain
To show forth all your love for me!

I suffered much in all of this
For you to find eternal bliss
Please do not turn your back on me!

Silence hung upon the sky
As nails into Thy hands did fly
Why not let a scream out loud?

Lashes stung and loudly cracked
Though striped,
you would not turn your back

When you meet me in the street
A dirty mess, nothing to eat
When you see me sick in bed

Raised on high – but such a throne!
On which to count out every bone
Upon Thy wretched hide exposed

On those who need your mercy
You lifted up the heavy load
That we might meet you on the road
That leads our hearts to peace and joy

With coughing, fever, throbbing head
When you see me full of tears
With grief and pain I've borne for years

Remember me, hung up above
Then crucify your heart, to love.

Petitions (the traditional petitions of Good Friday)

1. Let us pray for the holy Church of God, that our God and Lord be pleased to give her peace, to guard her and to unite her throughout the whole world and grant that, leading our life in tranquility and quiet, we may glorify God the Father almighty. *(pause for silent prayer)*

Almighty ever-living God, who in Christ revealed your glory to all the nations, watch over the works of your mercy, that your Church, spread throughout all the world, may persevere with steadfast faith in confessing your name. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

2. Let us pray also for our most Holy Father Pope Francis, that our God and Lord, who chose him for the Order of Bishops may keep him safe and unharmed for the Lord's holy Church to govern the holy People of God *(pause for silent prayer)*

Almighty ever-living God, by whose decree all things are founded, look with favor on our prayers and in your kindness protect the Pope chosen for us, that, under him, the Christian people, governed by you their maker, may grow in merit by reason of their faith. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

3. Let us pray also for our Bishop Joseph., for all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons of the Church and for the whole of the faithful people. *(pause for silent prayer)*

Almighty ever-living God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is sanctified and governed, hear our humble prayer for your ministers, that, by the gift of your grace, all may serve you faithfully. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

4. Let us pray also for those preparing for Baptism, that our God and Lord may open wide the ears of their inmost hearts and unlock the gates of his mercy, that, having received forgiveness of all their sins through the waters of rebirth, they, too, may be one with Christ Jesus our Lord. *(pause for silent prayer)*

Almighty ever-living God, who make your Church ever fruitful with new offspring, increase the faith and understanding of our catechumens, that, reborn in the font of Baptism they may be added to the number of your adopted children. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

5. Let us pray also for all our brothers and sisters who believe in Christ, that our God and Lord may be pleased, as they live the truth, to gather them together and keep them in his one Church. *(pause for silent prayer)*

Almighty ever-living God, who gather what is scattered and keep together what you have gathered, look kindly on the flock of your Son, that those whom one Baptism has consecrated may be joined together by integrity of faith and united in the bond of charity. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

6. Let us pray also for the Jewish people, to whom the Lord our God spoke first, that he may grant them to advance in love of his name and in faithfulness to his covenant. *(pause for silent prayer)*

Almighty ever-living God, who bestowed your promises on Abraham and his descendants, hear graciously the prayers of your Church, that the people you first made your own may attain the fullness of redemption. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

7. Let us pray also for those who do not believe in Christ, that, enlightened by the Holy Spirit, they, too, may enter on the way of salvation. *(pause for silent prayer)*

Almighty ever-living God, grant to those who do not confess Christ that, by walking before you with a sincere heart, they may find the truth and that we ourselves, being constant in mutual love and striving to understand more fully the mystery of your life, may be made more perfect witnesses to your love in the world. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

8. Let us pray also for those who do not acknowledge God, that, following what is right in sincerity of heart, they may find the way to God himself. *(pause for silent prayer)*

Almighty ever-living God, who created all people to seek you always by desiring you and, by finding you, come to rest, grant, we pray, that, despite every harmful obstacle, all may recognize the signs of your fatherly love and the witness of the good works done by those who believe in you, and so in gladness confess you, the one true God and Father of our human race. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

9. Let us pray also for those in public office, that our God and Lord may direct their minds and hearts according to his will for the true peace and freedom of all. *(pause for silent prayer)*

Almighty ever-living God, in whose hand lies every human heart and the rights of peoples, look with favor we pray, on those who govern with authority over us, that throughout the whole world, the prosperity of peoples, the assurance of peace and freedom of religion may through your gift be made secure. Through Christ our Lord

10. Let us pray, dearly beloved, to God the Father almighty, that he may cleanse the world of all errors, banish disease, drive out hunger, unlock prisons, loosen fetters, granting to travelers safety, to pilgrims return, health to the sick, and salvation to the dying. *(pause for silent prayer)*

Almighty ever-living God, comfort of mourners, strength of all who toil, may the prayers of those who cry out in any tribulation come before you, that all may rejoice, because in their hour of need your mercy was at hand. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Veneration of the Cross

“Behold the wood of the Cross, on which hung the salvation of the world. **Come, let us adore.**”

Slowly, all take turns holding a Crucifix in their hands to kiss it and look upon it. Silent Prayer.

We adore your Cross, O Lord, we praise and glorify your holy Resurrection, for behold,
because of the wood of a tree joy has come to the whole world.

The Reproaches

Response: ***“My people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me!”***

I scourged Egypt for your sake with its firstborn sons, and you scourged me and handed me over. *Response*

I led you out from Egypt as Pharaoh lay sunk in the Red Sea, and you handed me over to the chief priests. *Response*

I opened up the sea before you, and you opened my side with a lance. *Response*

I went before you in a pillar of cloud, and you led me into Pilate's palace. *Response*

I fed you with manna in the desert, and on me you rained blows and lashes. *Response*

I gave you saving water from the rock to drink, and for drink you gave me gall and vinegar. *Response*

I struck down for you the kings of the Canaanites, and you struck my head with a reed. *Response*

I put in your hand a royal scepter, and you put on my head a crown of thorns. *Response*

I exalted you with great power, and you hung me on the scaffold of the Cross. *Response*

Recite or sing the “Stabat Mater”:

- 1 At the cross her station keeping, Stood the mournful Mother weeping, Close to Jesus to the last.
- 2 Through her heart, his sorrow sharing, All his bitter anguish bearing, Now at length the sword has passed.
- 3 Oh, how sad and sore distressed Was that Mother highly blest Of the sole begotten One!
- 4 Christ above in torment hangs; She beneath beholds the pangs Of her dying, glorious Son.
- 5 Is there one who would not weep, 'Whelmed in miseries so deep, Christ's dear Mother to behold?
- 6 Can the human heart refrain From partaking in her pain, In that Mother's pain untold?
- 7 Bruised, derided, cursed, defiled, She beheld her tender Child, All with bloody scourges rent.
- 8 For the sins of his own nation, Saw him hang in desolation Till his spirit forth he sent.
- 9 O sweet Mother! fount of love, Touch my spirit from above, Make my heart with yours accord.
- 10 Make me feel as you have felt; Make my soul to glow and melt With the love of Christ, my Lord.
- 11 Holy Mother, pierce me through, In my heart each wound renew Of my Savior crucified.
- 12 Let me share with you his pain, Who for all our sins was slain, Who for me in torments died.
- 13 Let me mingle tears with thee, Mourning him who mourned for me, All the days that I may live:
- 14 By the cross with you to stay, There with you to weep and pray, This I ask of you to give.

Concluding Prayer

May abundant blessing, O Lord, we pray, descend upon your people, who have honored the Death of your Son in the hope of their resurrection: may pardon come, comfort be given, holy faith increase, and everlasting redemption be made secure. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Easter Sunday – what will be the best prayer time for you? At Sunrise? Before a special family meal?

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 Christ Our Lord, Amen.

Penitential Rite – Suggestion: Blessing with Holy Water if Available. Or "I Confess to Almighty God"

Liturgy of the Word

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

Col 3:1-4

EASTER SEQUENCE

Christians, to the Paschal victim offer your thankful praises!

A Lamb the sheep redeems: Christ, who only is sinless, reconciles sinners to the Father.

Death and life have contended, in that combat stupendous: The Prince of life, who died, reigns immortal.

Speak, Mary, declaring what thou saw, wayfaring: "The tomb of Christ, who is living, the glory of Jesus' Resurrection; bright angels attesting, the shroud and napkin resting. Christ my hope is arisen; to Galilee he goes before you."

Christ indeed from death is risen, our new life obtaining; have mercy, victor King, ever reigning! Amen. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 28:1-10

Reflection: "The Easter Story" (A poem by Fr. Gregory Beaumont)

Angels what are you saying? He is not here? "Come look and see!" An empty cave, just cloth & wrappings Where His Body used to be.	He taught us to call God "Our Father" To love our neighbor and serve the poor And that the way to peace is forgiveness Not through violence and war	All seemed lost for he was buried Disciples scattered. It was night. But life from death He ROSE triumphant A glorious dawn of eternal light
What happened? Where did they put him? Weren't there guards here all night long He is not here for HE IS RISEN Raise your hearts in joyful song!	"Love one another as I have loved you" He showed us how by washing feet Then the greatest gift of all He gave us "This is my Body – take and eat."	Christ reigns victorious! He's broken the chains of death and sin Open wide the gates of paradise Let all his people enter in!
It all started in the garden At the very dawn of time A paradise of peace and pleasure Lost forever by Adam's crime	He was betrayed – not just by Judas You and I rejected Him In our neglect of one another In our selfishness, pride and sin	The poor disciples were afraid They didn't know what it all meant The Holy Spirit gave them courage To the ends of the earth they were sent
Exiled in a world of suffering Toil and misery, fear and sin But with a promise to Abraham Salvation's story would begin	"It should have been us up on the Cross We're the ones who deserved to die" "Forgive them Father, they don't know what they're doing" Our loving Savior did reply.	In your life, is there still worry? Anxiety, conflict, fear or strife? Turn to Jesus for hope and glory "I am the Resurrection and the Life"
The Lord sent patriarchs, judges, Kings and prophets To make straight a path and prepare the Way For the coming of the Son of David Who was born on Christmas Day	His limp and lifeless Body cradled In the arms of His Mother dear She who rejoiced to see his birthday Now could not hold back her tears	The Lord is Risen ! Alleluia! Jesus Christ is Risen Today! Tell the World the Good News of Salvation Life from Death on Easter Day!

The Nicene Creed

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, and by the Holy Spirit 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.

Petitions

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4. For the courage and grace to repent of sin and to live a new life in Christ, we pray to the Lord . . .
5. For all who serve as shepherds in our Church, including Pope Francis, Bishop Joseph, our Pastor . . . , and for our Deacons, religious sisters and spiritual leaders, we pray to the Lord . . .
6. That all who have died will share in the glory of the Resurrection to new life, we pray to the Lord . . .
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The Lord’s Prayer . . . Our Father Who Art in Heaven

Spiritual Communion

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 the Holy Eucharist, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. I adore you and I praise you Lord, in every Tabernacle and upon every holy altar on earth, because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world. Oh Sacrament Most Holy, Oh Sacrament Divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine!

Let us spend a moment of silent prayer and adoration of the Lord Jesus in our hearts.

Devotional Prayer: a poem

Concluding prayer

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.

ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! The LORD is RISEN ! Truly He is Risen ! ALLELUIA !