

Easter

The Resurrection



Entrance music - (either live or recorded) Choose a suitable piece of music

Introduction

We gather to think about and give thanks for the central mystery of the Christian faith that Jesus rose from the dead and lives among us through his Holy Spirit.

Focus or symbol –

- White drape and cross or poster of the Resurrection.
- With banner/overhead and the words ‘Alleluia’ or ‘Jesus is risen, Alleluia’

Sign of the Cross

Good Friday and Easter cannot be separated, and so as we celebrate Easter, we begin with the Sign of the Cross, “In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”

Hymn or song

<i>CFE</i>		<i>O&N</i>
38	Alleluia, this is the day	
326	Jesus is Lord	280
	Hallelujah, my Father	199



Reading *Luke 24: 1-12 (paraphrased)*

Very early on Easter morning the women went to the tomb with scented oils to embalm the body of Jesus. They found that the big a stone that had been at the entry to the tomb was rolled away. But when they peered into the cave, the body of Jesus was not there. They were puzzled and upset about this. They wanted to do the best they could for the dead body of Jesus. Then suddenly, two angels appeared in bright shining clothes, who said to them, “Why are you looking here for one who is alive? He is not here; he has been raised.” The angels then reminded them of God’s great plan which was that Jesus was to suffer, be crucified and then rise in glory.

Comment on reading

This story about the empty tomb was hard for the early Church to believe. At first the apostles did not believe the women’s story. But then later, when Jesus appeared to them, they believed. We can easily be disheartened by disappointment, just as the disciples were. But they heard the good news about the Resurrection and began to believe. Jesus is still with us, at Mass and through his Holy Spirit. We have to learn to believe that whatever darkness we may experience, Jesus is there with us to strengthen us and give us hope.

Response to reading

CFE

731 This is the day

O&N

560

Prayers

We give thanks to the Risen Lord as we pray.

For the gift of life with all its wonder and beauty.

Response: *We thank you, alleluia.*

For our baptism and our new life in you.

Response: *We thank you, alleluia.*

For the marvel of your presence in the Eucharist.

Response: We thank you, alleluia.

For coming to us in the Bible and in our lives.

Response: We thank you, alleluia.

For all who work to protect and safeguard life.

Response: We thank you, alleluia.

[Other prayers]

Response: We thank you, alleluia.

Our Father...

Thought-Word-Phrase for the day

Christ is risen.

Blessing

May the living Lord bless us.

May he heal us of all selfishness.

May he lead us to be holy and caring. Amen.

Concluding song or music

CFE

32 Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the Risen Lord

728 Thine be the Glory

O&N

14

554

