



Easter Sunday



Sunflower meanings include happiness, optimism, honesty, longevity, peace, admiration, and devotion. The sunflower possibly surpasses all others in terms of its universal power to bring joy to people. With a round face and bright yellow petals resembling rays of sunshine, the sunflower has important cultural and spiritual significance to people around the world.

The Sunflower is the floral emblem of Ukraine.

FAMILY CELEBRATION OF HOLY WEEK AND EASTER TRIDUUM AT HOME

1. During Holy Week the Church celebrates the mysteries of salvation accomplished by Christ in the last days of his life on earth, beginning with his messianic entrance into Jerusalem” (Paschalis Solemnitatis, 27).
2. “The greatest mysteries of the redemption are celebrated yearly by the Church beginning with the evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday until Vespers of Easter Sunday. This time is called “the triduum of the crucified, buried and risen”[42]; it is also called the “Easter Triduum” because the Paschal Mystery is celebrated, that is, the passing of the Lord from this world to his Father. The Church by the celebration of this mystery, through liturgical signs and sacramentals, is united to Christ her Spouse in intimate communion” (Paschalis Solemnitatis, 38).
3. As we cannot gather in large numbers during this period of social distancing, we will return to the practice of the early Church of celebrating the liturgy in the homes of Christians. These celebrations are based on the church document; *Celebration of Easter Triduum in the Absence of the Priest and the Directory for Sunday Celebrations in the Absence of a Priest*.
5. A member of the family will lead the household in prayer for the evening liturgy of Holy Thursday, the afternoon liturgy of Good Friday, and the liturgy of Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday.
6. For the washing of the feet on Holy Thursday a member of the family washes the feet of the other family members. Traditionally, gifts for the poor are brought during the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper. Project Compassion donations collected during the season of Lent can be sent to the Church later if contact is currently not possible. [Caritas Australia](#)
7. On Good Friday the members of the family can venerate their cross at home.

At the Easter Vigil the Church keeps watch meditating on the wonderful story of God’s work of creation and salvation.

On Easter Sunday the assembly in the absence of a priest renew their baptismal promises. The family Easter candle is lit.

EASTER SUNDAY

Preparation

Table with a white cloth.

Candles and matches

Bible displayed with pages open

Decorate with flowers

Decorated Easter candle

Bells

Organise who will be the leader and who will read.

Light the larger Easter slowly and reverently

The family members participate in the Renewal of Promises.

After the renewal, as a reminder of Baptism, each member of the family can trace the sign of the cross on each other's forehead.



INTRODUCTORY RITES

GATHERING SONG

Music Link: [This Day was made by the Lord](#)
[Hymn Lyrics](#)

During the singing slowly and reverently light your Paschal Candle.

The leader invites the family to make the sign of the cross.

Leader:

Christ is risen, alleluia!

Members of the family:

He is truly risen, alleluia!

Leader:

As we come together to celebrate the glorious resurrection of Our Lord,
In the unity of the Holy Spirit, let us now give glory to God in the highest
and to his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God who took away our sins.

GLORIA

Music Link: [Gloria](#)

Members of the family:

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.



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Leader:

Like the disciples on the way to Emmaus, let our hearts burn within us, as we listen to God's word.

GOSPEL

John 20:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: Let us spend a few moments in silence to reflect on what we have heard in the readings.

Silent Reflection

Leader: Would anyone like to share their thoughts?



RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

Light candles from the Pascal Candle.

All stand holding lit candles, safely contained ,for the renewal of their baptismal promises.

Leader:

Through the paschal mystery
we have been buried with Christ in baptism,
so that we may rise with him to a new life.
Now that we have completed our Lenten observance,
let us renew the promises we made in baptism
when we renounced Satan and all the work of evil,
and promised to serve God faithfully
in the holy Catholic Church. And so:

All:

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
Was crucified, died and was buried;
He descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
and is seated at the right hand of the Father almighty;
From there 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 life everlasting.

Amen.



After the renewal of Baptismal Promises and as a reminder of Baptism, the members of the family may wish to trace the sign of the cross at on each other's forehead.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Leader:

Christ is the Lord of life, raised up by the Father;
in turn he will raise us up by his power.

Let us address our petitions to the heavenly Father as we pray:

R. Father, we beseech you, hear us.

A member of the family:

May the Church proclaim with courage Christ's victory to a world living in sin,
in agony, and in fear.

We pray.

R. Father, we beseech you, hear us.

May all the baptised believers
die to their sins and live up to their dignity as children of God.

We pray.

R. Father, we beseech you, hear us.

For the people of Ukraine, that they will have courage to support each other in
peaceful ways during this time of adversity: Let us pray to the Lord.

We pray.

R. Father, we beseech you, hear us.

For those who have been affected by floods recently, that governments and other
service agencies will respond to their needs.

We pray.

R. Father, we beseech you, hear us.

May the faithful departed share in Christ's glorious Resurrection.

We pray.

R. Father, we beseech you, hear us.

Leader:

Father, your Son conquered the power of death.

Let our celebration today raise us up and renew our lives,

through Jesus our Lord who lives and reigns with you for ever and ever.

The members of the family reply:

Amen.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader:

Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

All: 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.

Leader: Let us pray.

Leader: *All stand*
Eternal God,
watch over your Church with unfailing care,
that we who have received new life
through the paschal mystery of Christ
may come to the glory of the resurrection.
Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The leader then recites the following prayer:

Now that we have celebrated the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ,
let us go and proclaim the word we have heard and live according to the
spirit of the Sacrament we have received.

May Almighty God bless us, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us go in peace, alleluia, alleluia.

All: Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.

FINAL SONG

Music Link: [Jesus is Risen! Let us Sing!](#)
[Hymn Lyrics](#)

