

# HOLY WEEK KIT 2020 FOR THE FAMILY & HOUSEHOLD

(IN THE LIGHT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC)

TO BE PRAYED AT A SPECIFIC TIME SCHEDULED BY THE FAMILY & HOUSEHOLD

### STAY UNITED IN THE BODY OF CHRIST





"Now, you are the body of Christ and each one of you individually is a member of it. So God has appointed us in the Church. First apostles, second prophets, third teachers. Then comes miracles, then the gift of healing, material help, administration in the Church and the gift of tongues".

(1 Corinthians 12: 27-28)

#### A JOURNEY WITH THE DIVINE JESUS



Dear Lord Jesus,

As we immerse ourselves and walk closely with You on this journey of PASSION, DEATH and RESURRECTION this week, help us to spiritually unite ourselves with You through our concrete unity with one another here.

Help us to be a blessing to each other, in small but meaningful ways. Teach us, Lord Jesus, to be kind and gentle with our actions, charitable and nonjudgmental with our words, humble and forgiving in our thoughts, as we strive to be generous and patient with our love for one another.

May our unity with one another be our gift of love for You and an offering of hope and healing for the good of the whole world. AMEN







Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest (2X)

Lord, we lift up your name, with our hearts full of praise,
Be exalted, O Lord, my God,
Hosanna in the highest!

Glory, glory, glory to the King of kings! (2X)



 $\dagger$  In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen  $\dagger$ 

#### **Together:**

Lord Jesus, we ask you to be present in our midst as we remember the most important things You did on earth, out of love for us. We now join the first people who long ago pondered the meaning of Your life and mission, as we listen to Your Word.



A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians 2: 6-11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord. R> Thanks be to God



#### One Minute Reflection

Our Humble King, Jesus, did not enter Jerusalem on a horse that symbolizes power and strength. Instead, He entered the city riding on a young donkey which represents a sign of peace. Jesus, the Servant King, willingly accepts the Cross with a heart full of love, personally, for you and me.

Does my daily life reflect that I am grateful for His selfless sacrifice? Are there areas in my life that I am struggling with humility? The underlying reason could be that Jesus is not entirely my priority. Let me walk in closer union with Jesus, our Humble King.



#### LET US PRAY TO THE LORD

**For our Universal Church**, that the solemn journey of Holy Week this year may renew, transform and strengthen our faith-experience in a personal way. *We pray...* 

CHRIST OUR LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

For all nations in the world, as we face this pandemic together, that we may embrace humanity with God through this experience of life, death and resurrection. We pray...

CHRIST OUR LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

**For families everywhere,** that unity may be strengthened, love may be restored, patience and understanding may increase through this journey of grace. *We pray...* 

CHRIST OUR LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER



#### LET US PRAY TO THE LORD

For the oppressed and abandoned, that through the Eyes of Jesus we may see and empathize with their struggles encountered, and reach out in compassion. We pray...

CHRIST OUR LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

For those who suffer in silence, that uniting their sufferings with Jesus on the Cross, they experience hope, comfort and strength, which gives Joy and Peace. We pray...

CHRIST OUR LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

For us gathered to pray together, that we may thirst to have a deeper relationship with Jesus, and share that Love of Christ with courage and faithfulness. We pray...

CHRIST OUR LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER



We unite all our prayers that have been mentioned and that are still within our hearts, together with the prayers of all people, through this beautiful prayer of total surrendering which Christ have taught us.

#### Together:

Our Father who are 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. Amen.

† In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen†

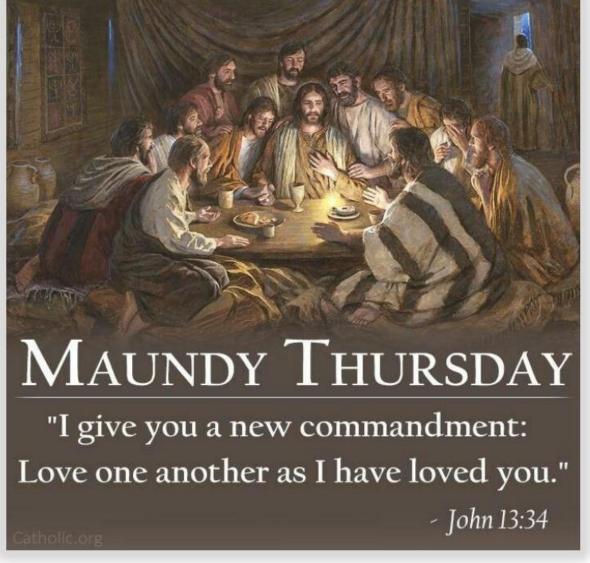


Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"
Let the poor say, "I am rich"
Because of what the Lord has done for us

Give thanks







† In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen†

#### Together:

O Lord, as we gather for a time of thanksgiving in Your Name, we remember this special day when You instituted the Eucharist. Although we are unable to receive You sacramentally on this significant day, we ask You to be present with us in Spirit as we walk in humble prayer with You at this very moment.



A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 11: 23-26

This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you: that on the same night that he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me". In the same way he took the cup after supper, and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of me". Until the Lord comes, therefore, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming his death.

The word of the Lord. R > Th

R> Thanks be to God



#### Antiphon: Where charity and love are found, there is God

- 1. The love of Christ has gathered us together as one. Let us rejoice and be glad in him. Let us fear and love the living God, and love each other from the depths of our heart.
- 2. Therefore when we are together, let us take heed not to be divided in mind. Let there be an end to bitterness and quarrels, an end to strife, and in our midst be Christ our God.
- 3. And, in company with the blessed, may we see your face in glory, Christ our God, Pure and unbounded joy for ever and ever.



WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS, LET US TAKE TURNS TO THANK GOD FOR THE MANY BLESSINGS THAT WE HAVE RECEIVED

For Your humble and perfect love for us even when we were sinners... We love You, Jesus

For the precious gift of faith that we have been blessed with... We praise & thank you Lord

For the challenges we encounter each day that brings us closer to You... We are grateful Lord

For the gift of family and the gift of persons in our lives... We just praise & we thank you Lord

For Your Holy Presence in our midst at this very moment... We glorify Y

We glorify You, Lord Jesus

For the future that is in Your Hands which we cannot see at present... We trust you, Father

For the gift of Your Spirit that continues to work in and through us... We praise you, Lord



FOR OFFENDING GOD AND ONE ANOTHER, LET US TAKE THIS MOMENT TO REPENT AND RETURN TO GOD, OUR FATHER

For not trusting You completely in times of trials, difficulties & doubts	We are sorry, Lord
For the times we have taken You for granted, neglecting our prayer life	We are sorry, Lord
For not being grateful enough to You for the daily blessings we receive	We are sorry, Lord
For the times we chose our own desires without discerning Your Will	We are sorry, Lord
For the times we failed to forgive the offences of one another	We are sorry, Lord
For the times we have not taken initiatives to be a gift of joy to others	We are sorry, Lord
For the times we chose negativity & failed to see the goodness in others	We are sorry, Lord
For these and for all the times we have offended You and one another	We are sorry, Lord



DEAR LORD, IN A SPECIAL WAY TODAY, WE REMEMBER ALL PRIESTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AS WE PRAY FOR THEM



O Loving and Sweet Jesus, I pray for Your faithful and fervent priests, for Your unfaithful and tepid priests, for Your priests labouring at home or abroad in distant mission fields; for Your tempted & struggling priests; for Your lonely and desolate priests; for Your sick priests; for Your dying priests; for Your priests who just died due to COVID-19 for the souls of Your priests in purgatory.



DEAR LORD, IN A SPECIAL WAY TODAY, WE REMEMBER ALL PRIESTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AS WE PRAY FOR THEM



We also remember specially and lift up to You the priests who baptized us; the priests who absolved us from our sins; the priests who anointed us and prayed for us; the priests at whose Masses we received Your Body and Blood in Holy Communion; all priests who taught us and gave us counsel; all the priests to whom we are grateful for;

We also ask for forgiveness for the times we have failed our priests through our words, our thoughts, our actions and our inactions.



DEAR LORD, IN A SPECIAL WAY TODAY, WE REMEMBER ALL PRIESTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AS WE PRAY FOR THEM



Dear Mary, Mother of Jesus, protect them, guide them and keep them in your heart.
Be a Mother to them, especially in times of discouragement and loneliness.

Dear Mary, Mother of God, make all priests humble like you, and holy like Jesus.

We thank God for the vocation of priesthood as we commit to pray for them each day through your intercession. Amen.



#### THE PASSOVER MEAL WITH THE FAMILY & HOUSEHOLD

Passover is a festival of great rejoicing, which reveals how God "led us from captivity to freedom, from sadness to joy, from mourning to feasting, from servitude to redemption, from darkness to brilliant light."

(cf. Ex 12: 1-8. 11-14)

With all present, have a simple & joyous thanksgiving meal together, with a lighted candle in the center, thanking God for the sacredness of life

DURING THIS MEAL,
SHARE HOW YOU
ENCOUNTERED CHRIST
IN MANY LITTLE WAYS
THROUGH THE
EXPERIENCE OF
COVID-19

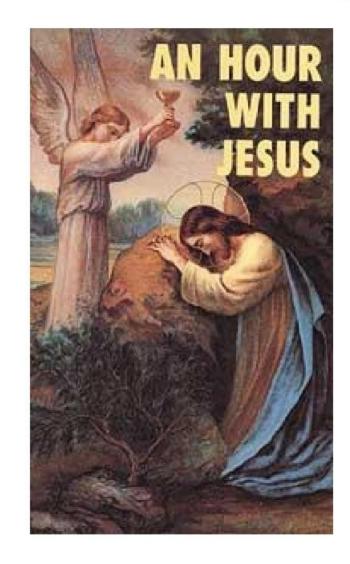


Dear Lord Jesus,

United with You in Spirit, we choose to dedicate this hour for You and with You

cf. Mt 26: 40-41

AN HOUR OF PERSONAL & QUIET TIME WITH THE LORD



#### **Litany of Supplication**

True God and true man, truly present in this Holy Sacrament
Our Saviour, God-with-us, faithful and rich in mercy
King and Lord of creation and history
Victor over the Sin and Death
Friend of Man, risen and living at the right hand of the Father

We adore you, O Lord We adore you, O Lord

Only begotten Son the Father, descended from Heaven for our salvation

Heavenly Doctor, who bends over our misery Sacrificial Lamb, who offered yourself to redeem us from evil Good Shepherd, who gives life to the flock that you love Living Bread and medicine of immortality, who gives us eternal life We believe in you, O Lord We believe in you, O Lord

From the power of Satan and the seductions of the world From pride and the presumption of being able to do without You From the deceptions of fear and anguish From unbelief and despair From the hardness of heart and the inability to love Free us, O Lord Free us, O Lord Free us, O Lord Free us, O Lord Free us, O Lord

From all the evils that afflict humanity
From hunger, famine and selfishness
From disease, epidemics and fear of the other
From devastating madness, ruthless interests and violence
From deception, misinformation and manipulation of consciences

Save us, O Lord Save us, O Lord Save us, O Lord Save us, O Lord Save us, O Lord

Look at your Church, as she crosses the desert
Look at humanity, terrified of fear and anguish
Look at the sick and dying, oppressed by loneliness
Look at the doctors and health workers, exhausted by fatigue
Look at the politicians and administrators,
who bear the weight of choices

Console us, O Lord Console us, O Lord Console us, O Lord Console us, O Lord

ices Console us, O Lord

In the hour of trial and confusion
In temptation and fragility
In the fight against evil and sin
In the search for true good and true joy
In the decision to remain in You and in Your friendship

Give us your Spirit, O Lord Give us your Spirit, O Lord

Prayed by millions of Catholics across the world on Friday 27 March 2020, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, together with the Holy Father, Pope Francis. If Sin oppresses us If hatred closes our hearts If pain visits us If indifference anguishes us If death annihilates us Open us to hope, O Lord Open us to hope, O Lord









**DAY OF FASTING & ABSTINENCE** 

#### **Together:**

Dear Lord Jesus, as we reflect on Your passion and death today by walking with you on the road to Calvary, we also want to reflect on Your tremendous love for us to the extend of suffering and dying for our sins, for my sins, on the Cross.

Mercy is the bridge that connects God and Man ~Msericordiae Vultus (M/2) ~



God of mercy and compassion Look with pity upon me! Father! Let me call Thee "Father." 'Tis thy child returns to Thee

Jesus, Lord! I ask for mercy, Let me not implore in vain! All my sins I now detest them, Help me not to sin again



By my sins I have deserved,
Death and endless misery,
Hell with all its pains and torments
And for all eternity

Jesus, Lord! I ask for mercy, Let me not implore in vain! All my sins I now detest them, Help me not to sin again



 $^\dagger$  In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen  $^\dagger$ 

#### **Together:**

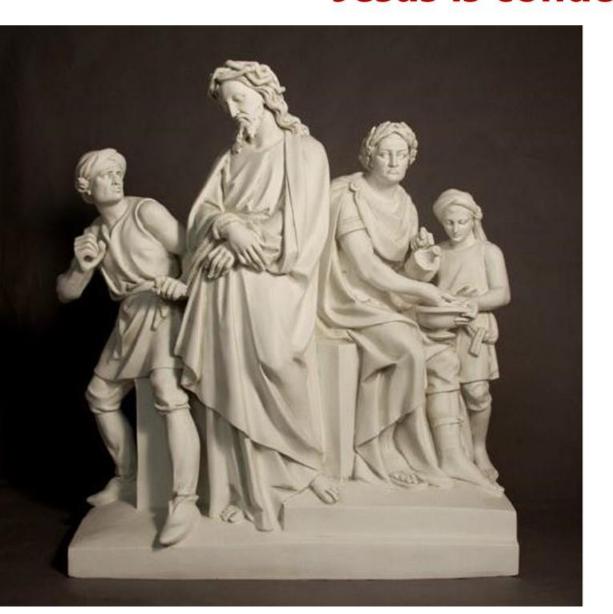
O God You willed your Son to undergo for us the humiliation of the cross to deliver us from the power of evil. We pray to you, fill our hearts with love for Christ and sorrow for sin, and grant that we may gain the grace of His Resurrection.



#### **Opening Prayer**

My Lord and Redeemer, You have shown us how to live by your life and by your death. When we compare your life to ours, we start asking questions about ourselves. Sometimes, Lord, the ocean of life seems so wide and so deep and our ship oars so small. Help us to grow and to understand You and ourselves better. We ask You to help us to accept life and everything that comes with it. Amen.





#### Leader:

We bless You, O Lord, and glorify Your name

(PLEASE BOW)

#### Together:

Because by Your passion, death and resurrection You have saved the world.





#### Leader:

It is Friday early in the morning, Jesus is brought from Caiaphas the High Priest to Pontius Pilate, the Governor, on trumped-up charges of treason and is condemned to death. Jesus had nothing but love for people, yet He was condemned to die a brutal death.



#### **Together:**

Lord Jesus, often I judged others and fail to be understanding or loving. Help me to see the people in my life through your eyes, not the eyes of Pontius Pilate. Teach me by this station to help build up each and every person I meet, rather than tear them apart by my malicious criticism and condemnation. Amen.



At the cross her station keeping, Stood the mournful mother weeping, Close to Jesus to the last.







#### Leader:

We bless You, O Lord, and glorify Your name

(PLEASE BOW)

### Together:





### Leader:

A heavy cross is thrust into Jesus' arms. He is ordered to carry it to the site of His execution. Jesus accepts the cross. Carrying it by Himself, He goes out to the place of the Skull - Golgotha - to be crucified with two other men. The weight of the cross shows heavily on the brow and the face of Jesus. Yet, He moves forward without a word of complaint.



### **Together:**

Lord Jesus, You embraced your cross to redeem the world. Help me to embrace the cross in my life – the hardships, struggles, disappointments and pain. Only by recognizing my own weakness can I discover your strength.



Through her heart, his sorrow sharing, All his bitter anguish bearing, Now at length the sword has passed.







### Leader:

We bless You, O Lord, and glorify Your name

(PLEASE BOW)

### **Together:**





### Leader:

The Cross is heavy and the road to Calvary, the road to Golgotha – the place of death – is long. Jesus, weary from lack of sleep, loneliness, fear, and the beatings He received slumps to the ground. Soldiers quickly drag Him to His feet again.



### **Together:**

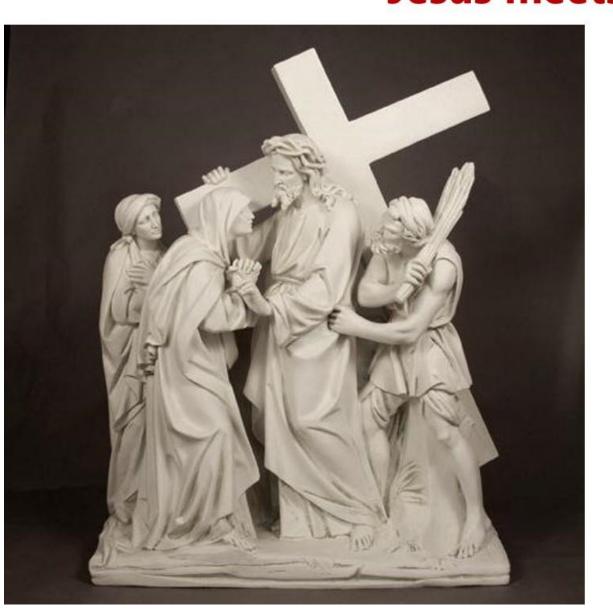
Lord Jesus, You know how often I fall trying to follow You. Yet,
You are always there to lift me up. Help me always to trust in
your loving care for me and never let me become so
discouraged that I give in to failure. Help me always to know my
strengths through my weaknesses.



# Oh, how sad and sore distress'd Was that mother highly blest Of the sole-begotten One!







### Leader:

We bless You, O Lord, and glorify Your name

(PLEASE BOW)

### Together:





### Leader:

Mary was waiting for her dear Son to pass; her silent presence was great comfort to Jesus. She is teaching us to feel and to show sympathy for those who suffer. There is no need for many words; our friendly presence or deeds of kindness can convey our loving care for our suffering neighbour.



### **Together:**

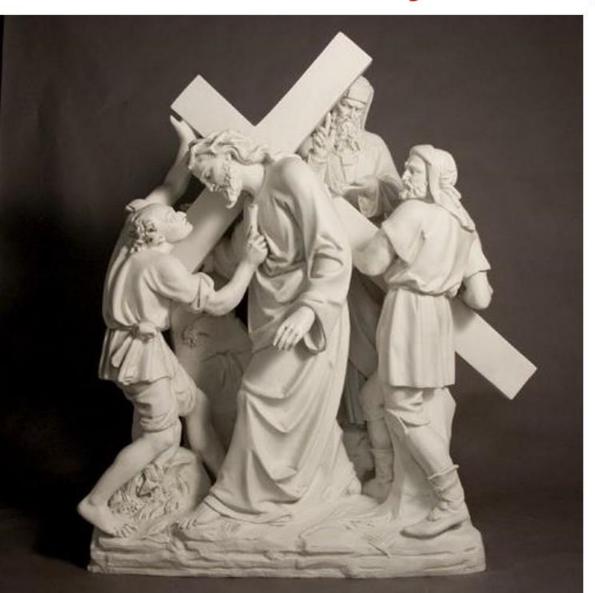
Dear Lord, Your mother's grief was surpassed by her love for You. So often You come to me in others and their love gives me new life. Help me to see how often You love me through the people in my life.



Christ above in torment hangs; She beneath beholds the pangs Of her dying glorious Son.







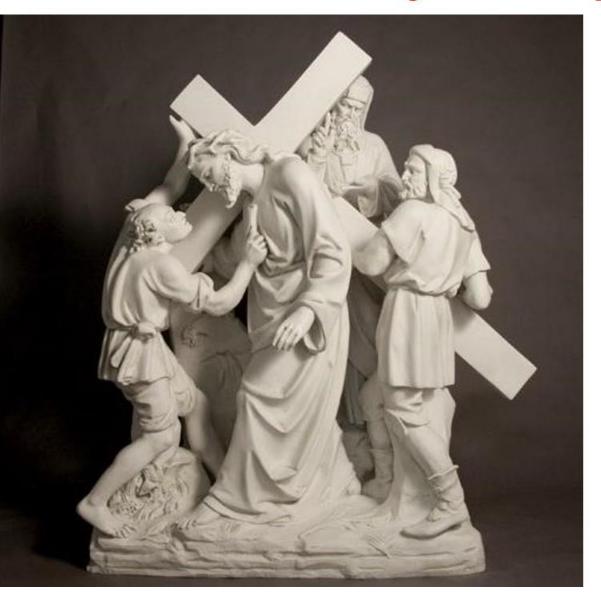
#### Leader:

We bless You, O Lord, and glorify Your name

(PLEASE BOW)

### Together:





#### Leader:

Jesus is faltering under the load. The soldiers fear that He might die along the way. They seize Simon of Cyrene, put the cross on his shoulders, too, as he stands behind Jesus and make him help shoulder the load.

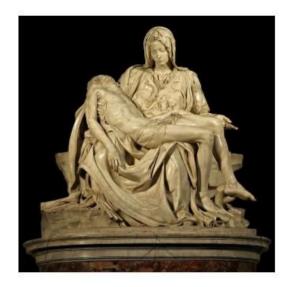


### **Together:**

Lord Jesus, sometimes I am indifferent to the needs of others in my life. I even neglect those whom I love. Help me to see that loving others is the surest way to find You in my life.



Is there one who would not weep, Whelm'd in miseries so deep Christ's dear mother to behold?







### Leader:

We bless You, O Lord, and glorify Your name

(PLEASE BOW)

### Together:





#### Leader:

This lady showed great determination and courage in waiting for Jesus and wiping His face in spite of the hostile crowd. She sees only the person in need and gives help without thinking of the possible consequences to herself. How often are we not prevented from doing good by fear of what people may say or think?

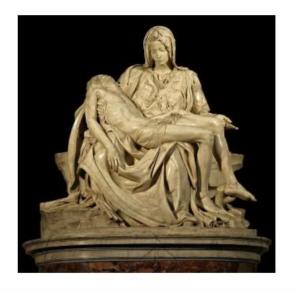


### **Together:**

Lord Jesus, at times I am afraid to reach out to others. I do nothing when I should act; I say nothing when I should speak out. Give me a deeper and more courageous faith. Help me to trust that You are with me.



Can the human heart refrain From partaking in her pain, In that mother's pain untold?







### Leader:

We bless You, O Lord, and glorify Your name

(PLEASE BOW)

### Together:





### Leader:

Jesus falls again, despite the help of Simon. He lies sprawled in the dirt, sweat beading on his face, mingling with the blood from cuts on His forehead and the dust of these well-travelled streets. The soldiers, impatient and anxious to be over this job, roughly drag Him to His feet again, cursing Him.



### **Together:**

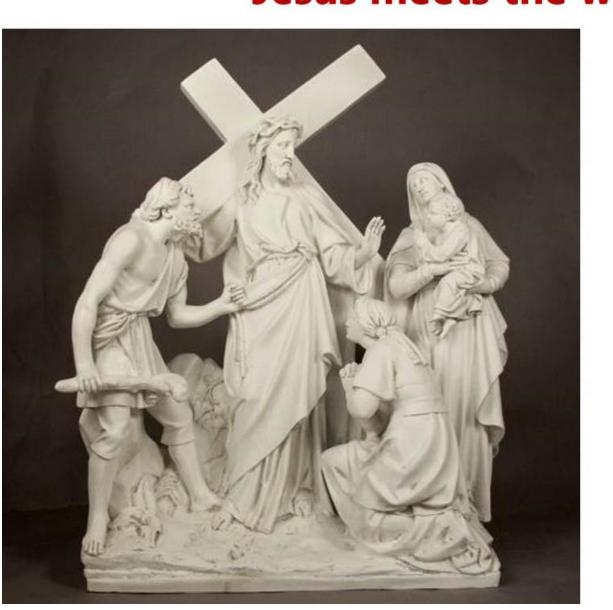
Lord Jesus, failure and disappointment sometimes lead me to despair. I hide behind my pride and self-pity withdrawing from you and others. Give me the hope I need and help me never to be afraid to begin again.



Bruis'd, derided, curs'd, defil'd, She beheld her tender child: All with bloody scourges rent.







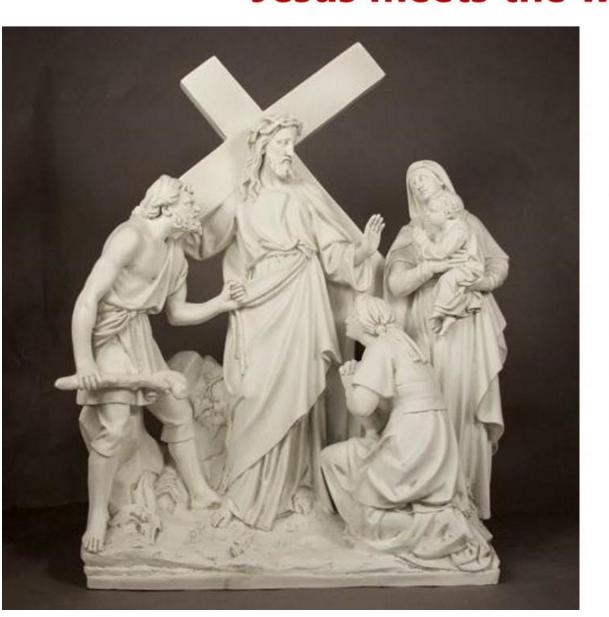
#### Leader:

We bless You, O Lord, and glorify Your name

(PLEASE BOW)

### Together:





### Leader:

A large crowd of women have followed Jesus' path to Golgotha. They are weeping and wailing in traditional mourning for this man, their friend. They are overcome by their grief and by their helplessness. Jesus says to them, "Don't weep for me but for yourselves and your children."

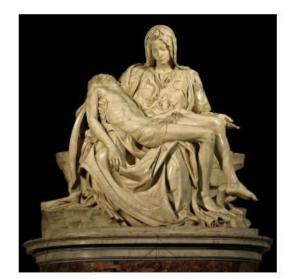


### **Together:**

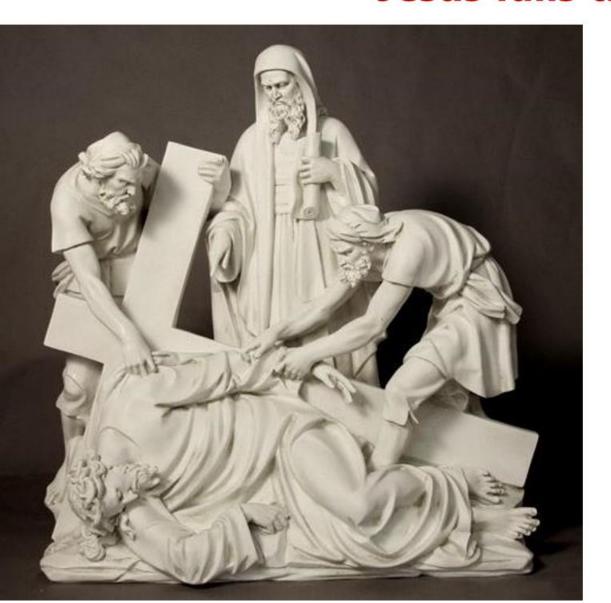
Lord Jesus, once again I pray to You for the courage to repent and to change. Let me not simply moan and do nothing. Let the experience of my past sins teach me to rely on God's grace and be aware of my weakness.



For the sins of his own nation Saw Him hang in desolation, Till his spirit forth He sent.







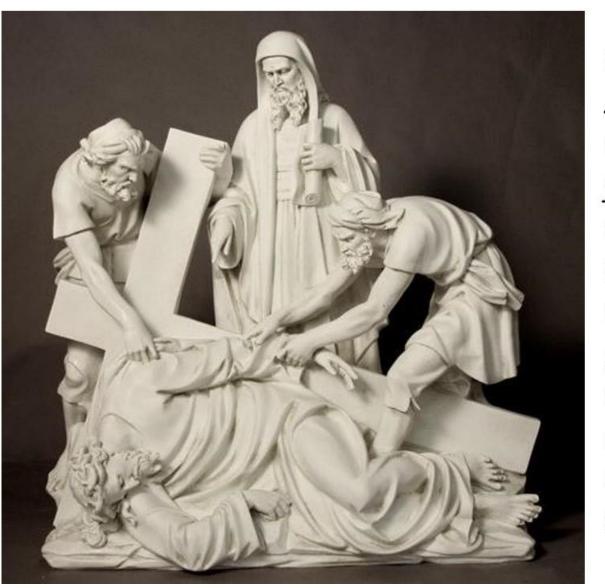
### Leader:

We bless You, O Lord, and glorify Your name

(PLEASE BOW)

### Together:





#### Leader:

Jesus, completely overcome by physical weakness, slumps under the cross for the final time. We've slipped, we've stumbled, we've fallen many times in life. Each time we look at ourselves as being a no-good, worthless wretch. Our self-images were getting worse with each slip in life. It was only then when we learned to live one day at a time and not look at our past or worry about all the tomorrows that we could live in the here and now.

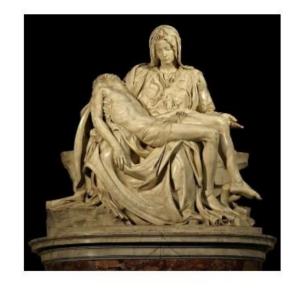


### **Together:**

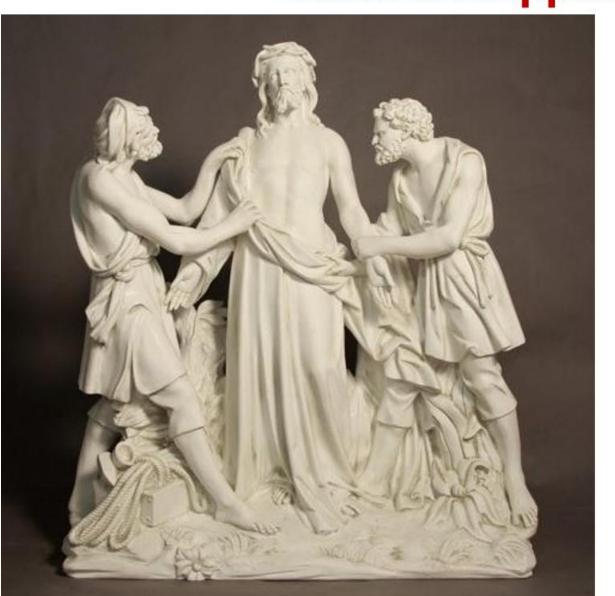
Lord Jesus, your failing strength makes me see how helpless I am. Without you, I can do nothing. Help me to rely on your strength, to see how much I need you and teach me not to condemn myself so much that I give up in despair.



O thou mother! Fount of love! Touch my spirit from above, Make my heart with thine accord.







#### Leader:

We bless You, O Lord, and glorify Your name

(PLEASE BOW)

### Together:





#### Leader:

Finally they arrive at the God-forsaken place where He will be crucified. People dump their garbage here. Hurriedly, roughly, His clothes are stripped from His back leaving Him naked, exhausted and humiliated... nothing left, not even dignity. Is this His poverty or is it our's? We took His clothes, His dignity much like this world strips hundreds and thousands of its people with its greed and its' uncaring. Our selfishness stands exposed for what it is when we allow Jesus to be stripped of everything.



### **Together:**

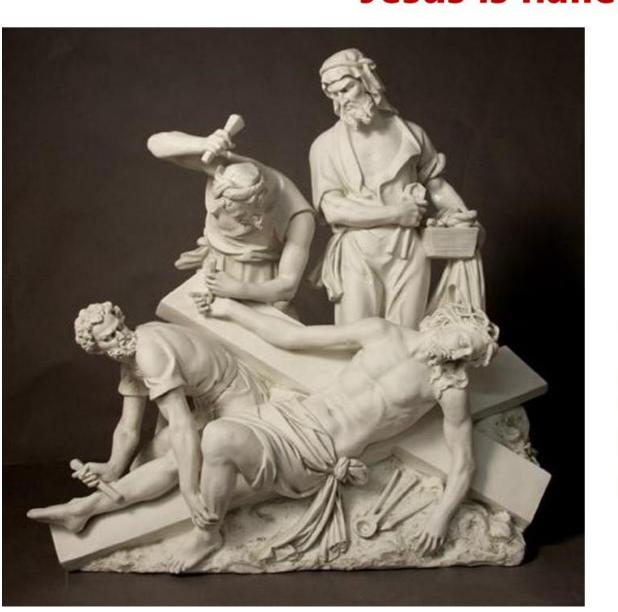
Lord Jesus, seeing You so cruelly humiliated makes me realize how I cling to my accomplishments, my possessions, my way. Help me to let go of those things in my life that prevent me from growing closer to You and others. Teach me never to yearn for the great and noble things of life, but may the little acts of kindness and love in my life be many.



Make me feel as thou has felt; Make my soul to grow and melt With the love of Christ our Lord.







### Leader:

We bless You, O Lord, and glorify Your name

(PLEASE BOW)

### Together:

Because by Your passion, death and resurrection You have saved the world.





### Leader:

Roughly, contemptuously, the soldiers thrust Jesus down onto His cross. Holding Him down, they pound the nails through His hands and feet. After He is lifted up, the soldiers throw a dice for His clothing. Arms and hands that were always extended in love are now extended and fastened to the wood of the cross.



## **Together:**

Lord Jesus, I can never doubt your great love for me when I see You crucified. Help me to see Your cross as the great sign of Your love for me and help me to turn to You, to embrace You and the yoke You have offered me.



Holy mother! Pierce me through, In my heart each wound renew Of my Saviour crucified.







### Leader:

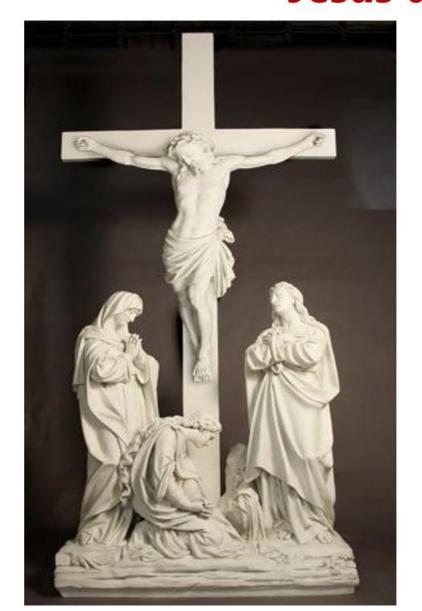
We bless You, O Lord, and glorify Your name

(PLEASE BOW)

## Together:

Because by Your passion, death and resurrection You have saved the world.





### Leader:

"My people, what have I done to you or in what have I offended you? What more should I have done, and did not do? I led you out of the land of Egypt, and you prepared a cross for me. I opened the Red Sea before you, and you opened my side with a lance. I gave you a royal scepter and you gave me a crown of thorns. With great power I lifted you up and you hung me upon a cross". (cont..)





### Leader:

It was now about the 6<sup>th</sup> hour and there was darkness over the whole land until the 9th hour. Jesus cried out with a loud voice and said. "It is finished. Father, into your hands I commend my spirit". Then, bowing His head, He died.

(Please kneel)

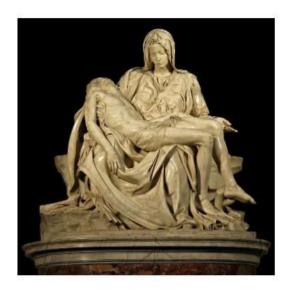


## **Together:**

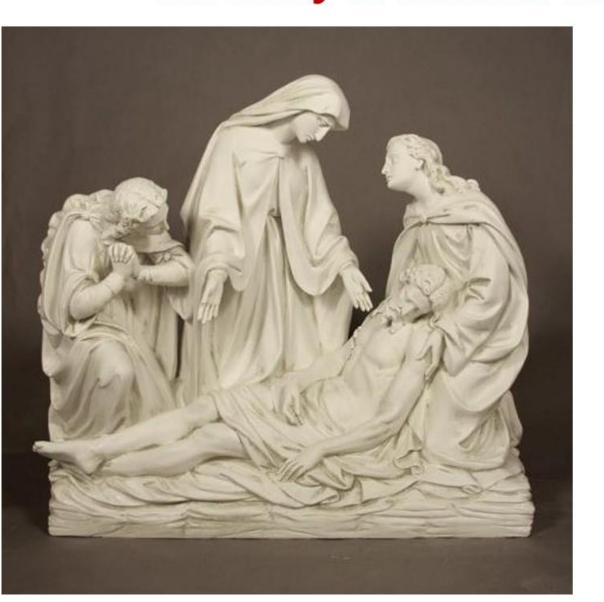
Lord, Your broken and lifeless body calls me to deeper faith. You chose death, even death on the cross. Your death teaches me that I have to die to sin and selfishness in order to bear fruits of holiness and salvation. Help me to see my crosses as ways of loving You.



Let me share with thee his pain, Who for all my sins was slain, Who for me in torments died.







### Leader:

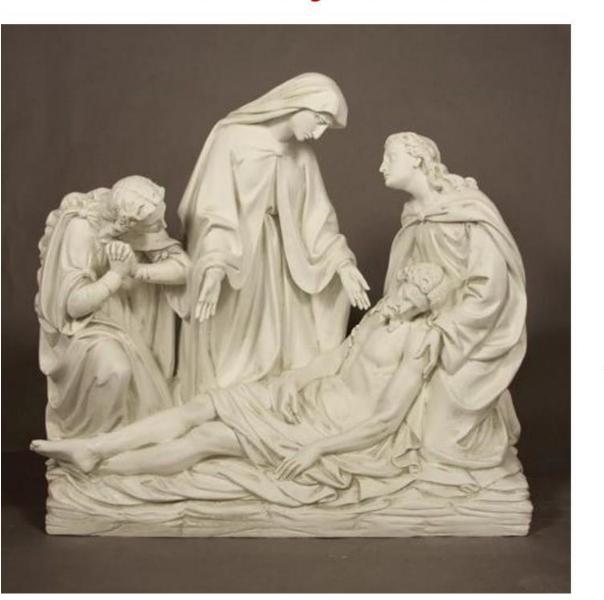
We bless You, O Lord, and glorify Your name

(PLEASE BOW)

### Together:

Because by Your passion, death and resurrection You have saved the world.





### Leader:

Mary stood at the foot of the cross and had to watch her dear Son die in great torment; now she receives His dead body in her arms. She understands the anguish and anxiety of people who suffer for their dear ones who may be stricken with sickness or detained in prison. She is the mother of the afflicted.



## **Together:**

Beloved Saviour, You returned to the Father all that He had given You, so that He might restore all to You a hundred-fold in the glorious resurrection. Help us, we beg You, to give generously of ourselves in all that we do for You, so that like You we might be made perfect in a new resurrection.



Let me mingle tears with thee Mourning Him who mourn'd for me, All the days that I may live.







### Leader:

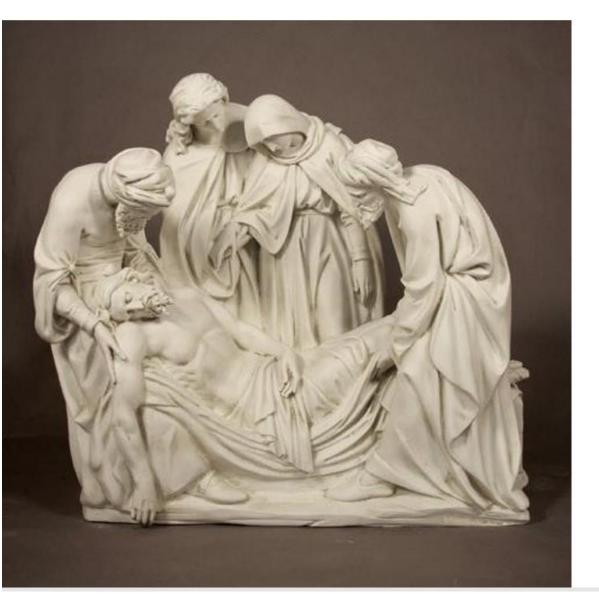
We bless You, O Lord, and glorify Your name

(PLEASE BOW)

## Together:

Because by Your passion, death and resurrection You have saved the world.





### Leader:

Jesus is laid in the tomb. Jesus lived so humbly and simply that He had no place to be buried. They laid Him in the burial place of a stranger. As the soldier closed the door on the tomb of Jesus, a new chapter of the person and life of Jesus opened. I know that if I turn my life and will over to the care of God, I can be transformed into a new person. My hatred can be turned into love and kindness; my sadness turned into joy; and where there is despair, I can find hope. My weakness can be turned into strength.



## **Together:**

Lord Jesus, when I see the great stone sealing Your tomb, I feel alone and abandoned. Even though You sometimes seem distant or absent in my life, help me always to believe in Your closeness and loving presence. Teach me by Your tremendous courage to face everything in life, even death itself, and never to fear. Help me my God to never fear anything but fear itself.



By the cross with thee to stay, There with thee to weep and pray, Is all I ask of thee to give.





## **Closing Prayer**

Lord Jesus, help me to walk with You each day of my life, even to Calvary. The sorrow and joy, the pain and healings, the failures and triumphs of my life are truly small deaths and resurrection that lead me to closeness with you. Give me the faith and trust I need to walk with you always.

Be merciful to me, O my God and reject not my prayers, when amid my afflictions, I call upon thy Holy Name and seek with love and confidence thine adorable face. Amen.



### Let us pray for our Holy Father's intentions:

Our Father, who are 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.

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.



By my sins I have abandoned Right and claim to heaven above Where the saints rejoice for ever In a boundless sea of love

Jesus, Lord! I ask for mercy, Let me not implore in vain! All my sins I now detest them, Help me not to sin again



See, our Saviour, bleeding, dying
On the Cross of Calvary;
To that Cross my sins have nailed Him
Yet He bleeds and dies for me

Jesus, Lord! I ask for mercy, Let me not implore in vain! All my sins I now detest them, Help me not to sin again



#### **VENERATION OF THE CROSS**

Holding a crucifix in our hands, let us **INDIVIDUALLY** take a moment to gaze at the cross with reverence and pass it on to the next person.





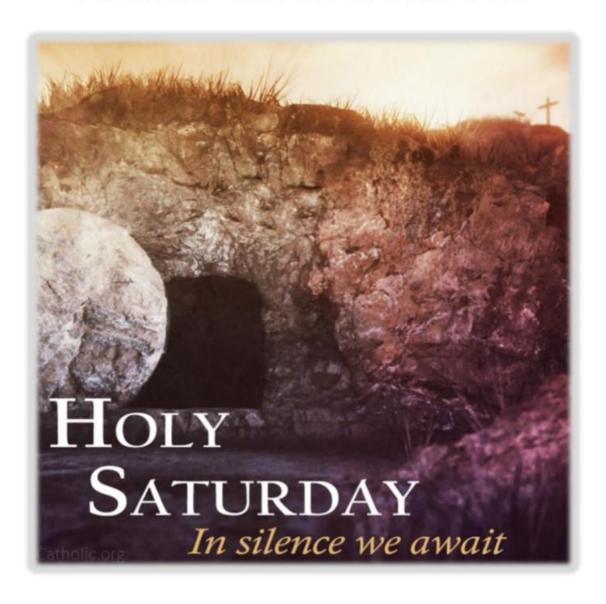
#### **VENERATION OF THE CROSS**

### Together:

We worship you, Lord,
We venerate your cross,
We praise your resurrection.
Through the cross you brought joy to the world.
May God be gracious and bless us;
And let his face shed its light upon us.

Amen.







#### THE CELEBRATION OF LIGHT

In total darkness, we light the main candle in the house as we pray...  $\dagger$ 





#### THE CELEBRATION OF LIGHT



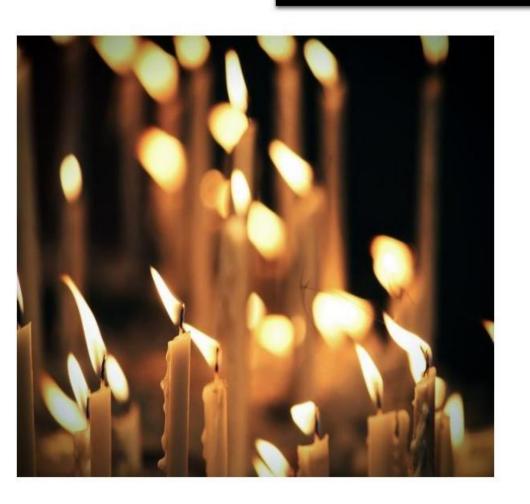
### Leader:

Lord Jesus Christ, on this most holy night, when you passed from death to life, you invite us, your children throughout the world, to come together to honour the memory of your death and resurrection, by hearing your word and celebrating your mysteries. With this confidence, we share Your victory over death and live with you, forever in God. May Your light inflame us with new hope. Purify our minds and bring us to the feast of eternal light.

R> Amen



#### THE CELEBRATION OF LIGHT



We now each light our individual candles from the main candle as we prayerfully recite this twice...

### Together:

Christ be our light, shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness
Christ be our light, shine in your church gathered today, wherever we may be.



A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans 6: 3-11

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus we were baptized in his death; in other words, when we were baptized we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

If in union with Christ we have imitated his death, we shall also imitate him in his resurrection. We must realize that our former selves have been crucified with him to destroy this sinful body and to free us from the slavery of sin. When a man dies, of course, he has finished with sin.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

R> Thanks be to God



#### **RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES**

With the newness of light from our candles and from within our hearts, we now profess the faith we believe. (In a special way at this moment, we also remember all the elect and candidates of the RCIA)

I believe in God, the father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and

born of the Virgin Mary.

He 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 and is seated at the right

hand of the Father.

He will come again 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. Amen.



God lives in me and may He there abide
I've renounced the devil and my Jesus is my guide
God lives in me 'cause I've been baptized
In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

When on my head, Baptismal waters poured
I became a child of God and brother of our Lord
God lives in my 'cause I've been baptized
In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit







### **REJOICE! JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY! ALLELUIA!**

Jesus Christ is risen today... Alleluia!

Let us, then, our homage pay... Alleluia!

Who died once upon the Cross... Alleluia!

Suffered to redeem our loss... Alleluia!

Hymns of praise, then let us sing...

Unto Christ, our heavenly King...

Who endured the Cross and grave...

Sinners to redeem and save...

Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Alleluia!



† In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen†

## **Together:**

God our Father, by raising Christ your Son, you conquered the power of death and opened for us the way to eternal life. We want to rise early today and watch the sunrise, the promise of a new day. Let our celebration of new life today raise us up and renew our lives by the Spirit that is within us.



A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 20: 1-9

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 put 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 word of the Lord.

R> Thanks be to God



## One Minute Reflection

Easter is a celebration of LIGHT, LIFE and LIBERTY. Easter gives us new hope and new life in Christ Jesus.

Are we living our lives as Easter people? Are we sharing the Joy of Easter to one another beginning with our very own self?

Let me start again my life anew today beginning with the smallest details. May I glorify God by counting the blessings I receive and living my life to the fullest, as my gift back to Him.



R> THIS DAY WAS MADE BY THE LORD; WE REJOICE AND ARE GLAD

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end Let the sons of Israel say: "His love has no end".



THIS DAY WAS MADE BY THE LORD; WE REJOICE AND ARE GLAD

The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds.



THIS DAY WAS MADE BY THE LORD; WE REJOICE AND ARE GLAD

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

R> THIS DAY WAS MADE BY THE LORD; WE REJOICE AND ARE GLAD

## **OUR EASTER PRAYER**



On this day, loving gracious God, we once again sing Alleluia. We praise You and thank You for raising Jesus up from the dead and we praise and thank You for all the times You have raised us up through Your Grace

In this Easter season and always, when we are weak and unable to make good decisions; when we are faced with fear and uncertainties; when we are afraid and discouraged and forget that You strengthen us; when we are stubborn and refuse to forgive others; when we are too selfish or too weary to follow Jesus as we should; raise us up, loving God, raise us up.

> Thank You for giving us new life in Jesus and for His presence among us this Eastertime and always. Amen.



# WISHING YOU A BLESSED AND JOYFUL EASTER IN THE LORD

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer" (Rom 12:12)