

# Easter Sunday

## Understanding Easter Sunday

Today is Resurrection Day! We joyfully proclaim that Jesus is risen from the dead, that the tomb is empty, and he lives forever more. Easter Sunday marks Jesus' victory over sin and death, and celebrates the fact that Jesus is Lord. He has made it possible for us to live forever with God. We too, will pass through death to eternal life. Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

## Open The Word

*When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. (John 20:6-8)*

• **Read today's Gospel:** John 20:1-9

## Holy Week In Your Home

What can you do to celebrate your gratitude and hope in the Lord for the next fifty days of our Easter celebration?

Take some time before your Easter dinner to thank God for the many blessings he has given to you and your family. Consider having each person say one thing they are thankful for as part of your blessing of your family meal.

## For Children

For the 40 days of Lent, we did not hear "Alleluia!" On Easter Sunday, we sing it again to remind us that Jesus is Risen!

Print and color the [Alleluia, Jesus is Risen!](#) page and hang it on your front door to share the good news of Jesus' love for everyone.

## Did You Know?

Easter Sunday marks the first day of our 50-day celebration of Easter, which lasts until Pentecost.

## Spiritual Reading

What the Church hears on Easter night is above all the first element of the creation account: "God said, 'let there be light!'" (Gen 1:3). The creation account begins symbolically with the creation of light...

What is the creation account saying here? Light makes life possible. It makes encounter possible. It makes communication possible. It makes knowledge, access to reality and to truth, possible. And insofar as it makes knowledge possible, it makes freedom and progress possible. Evil hides. Light, then, is also an expression of the good that both is and creates brightness. It is daylight, which makes it possible for us to act. To say that God created light means that God created the world as a space for knowledge and truth, as a space for encounter and freedom, as a space for good and for love.

[\(From Pope Benedict XVI's Easter Vigil Homily, April 7, 2012.\)](#)

## Let Us Pray

Heavenly Father, on this glorious Easter Sunday, we rejoice in the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, who conquered sin and death and brought forth new life for all humanity. May the light of Easter dawn brightly in our hearts, illuminating our path with hope and guiding us to share the Good News of your redeeming love with the whole world. We make this prayer in the life-giving name of Jesus, our Risen Lord and Savior. Amen.

## Faith In Action

Easter is not a day, but a whole season of our lives. How will you continue to put your faith in service to the world this Easter season and beyond? Visit [Catholic Charities](#) to learn more about parish and community engagement.



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