

# Holy Saturday



## Understanding Holy Saturday

Holy Saturday is a quiet day, as we rest with Jesus in the tomb. We await Easter Sunday, the day of resurrection, but now we wait in quiet expectation. After sundown, as night descends, the Easter Vigil begins, and we welcome new members into the Church. We know that Jesus rose from the dead before dawn, and so the Church begins the first Mass of Easter in the night, joyfully proclaiming, in the midst of the dark, that he is alive!

## Open The Word

*If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him. As to his death, he died to sin once and for all; as to his life, he lives for God. Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as being dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus. (Romans 6:8-11)*

- **Read the whole passage:** Romans 6:3-11

## Holy Week In Your Home

The Season of Lent has been about active waiting, waiting in hope and thanksgiving for the promise of eternal life fulfilled for us through Jesus' cross and resurrection. What practices from this Lent will you bring forward to the Easter Season and beyond?

## For Children

The Sacraments of Initiation include Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. Which one(s) have you already received? Print out the Easter Vigil Luminary activity and pray for the people who will celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation this Holy Saturday.

**Activity:** [Easter Vigil Luminary](#)

## Did You Know?

On Holy Saturday, people who want to join the Catholic faith receive the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist at the celebration of the Easter Vigil.

## Spiritual Reading

We are responsible for one another, our community, and this planet that we share. Demonstrating love is more than verbalizing our heartfelt intention – it is walking together through daily life and all it can bring.

We live in a time – as it was in every previous generation – where it is quite popular to try to anticipate or know the future somehow – whether through social or traditional customs. However, we are anchored in a different kind of reassurance of our future and our present. As we face various obstacles in our lives, with the Eucharist as our center, as Pope Francis encourages us, we choose to focus on the living Lord whose Real Presence changes us, our relationships, and our perspectives and all for the better. ([From Catholic Standard article Text of Cardinal Gregory's keynote address at The African National Eucharistic Congress](#))

## Let Us Pray

Eternal and Everlasting God, On this Holy Saturday, we eagerly await the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ. Help us to remember those who are still waiting in darkness, longing for the light of your love to shine upon them. May we be instruments of your peace and reconciliation in the world, bringing hope to the hopeless and comfort to the afflicted. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## Faith In Action

As we wait for the Resurrection of Christ, seek out the voiceless, those who suffer in silence. Consider volunteering at a local outreach center, perhaps a food pantry or community kitchen. During this time, focus on accompanying others. How does sharing our time allow us to share the hope of Christ? For a list of parish food pantries that need support, please see our Archdiocesan [adw.org website](#) for more information.



The Roman Catholic  
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