



# Easter Sunday

## The Lord Is Risen

### Introduction

For Christians there is no day that compares with Easter Day. This is truly the 'Day of the Lord'. This is the day Christ, our Brother, was victorious over the powers of death. But it is meant to be our day too, for Christ wants to share with us the fruits of his victory. And which of us would not wish to share in so great a victory. Let us ask the risen Christ to set us free from the chains of sin.

### First Reading (Acts 10:34, 37-43)

This is part of an early sermon of St. Peter. He tells us how he was a witness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. The risen Jesus is the Saviour of all those who believe in him, as well as the Judge of the living and the dead.

### Second Reading (Colossian 3:1-4)

Through our Baptism we already share in the risen life of Christ, though in a hidden and mysterious way.

### Gospel (John 20:1-9)

Early on Sunday morning some of the disciples discover that the tomb in which Jesus was buried is empty. Then the truth of what the Scriptures had foretold begins to dawn on them, namely, that Jesus would rise from the dead.

### Prayer Of The Faithful

Let us pray to God our Father, who raised Jesus from the dead and who will raise us too, for a share in the joy and hope of this Easter Day.

R. Lord, graciously hear us.

For all believers in Christ: that they may be messengers of joy and hope to a world that often seems to be filled with sadness and despair.  
Lord, hear us.

R. Lord, graciously hear us.



For the world and all humankind: that all God's people scattered far and wide may experience the fruits of the victory Christ won over sin and death. Lord, hear us.

R. Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who travel in darkness: those who have no faith and who have given up hope. Lord, hear us.

R. Lord, graciously hear us.

That we may try to live like Jesus so that one-day we may come to share fully in his Easter victory. Lord, hear us.

R. Lord, graciously hear us.

### Communion Reflection

"Someone at the back of the church lit a candle, a single point of light not able to pierce the darkness. But there, there was another, and another, for each of the worshippers carried a candle. Swiftly the flame was passed from one to another. In less than a minute the church was a blaze of light – no not the impersonal glare of electricity – it was a thousand individual flames united in a single faith.

Each candle lit up the face behind it.  
That face bore the deep lines of suffering.  
Yet it was illuminated,  
and the suffering turned into joy,  
because of the certain knowledge  
that the Lord has risen.

These people do not debate the resurrection.  
They have experienced it in their lives,  
They have not persevered the faith in hostile surroundings;  
it has preserved them.  
Their joy is a glimpse through the curtain  
which divides us from heaven".

Lord, may your Easter light shine on us this day,  
and chase the shadows of the night of death away.