



Liturgy Cycle C

Easter Sunday

Introduction

Today we have gathered as one large parish family of God to celebrate Easter for which we have been preparing for the whole of lent. Easter is the centre of the whole year of worship. This feast has been called "the feast of all feasts". It does not last only one day the church prolongs it for seven weeks, till the time day of Pentecost. This seven weeks period is called Easter for us, Christians.

Easter is the celebration of Christ's' victory over sin and death. Christ died with the hope in his Father, that he would raise him up, and his hope was not misplaced. His resurrection is the blossoming of his hope. Since then we too experience anxieties, fears, frustrations, misunderstandings, but Christ's resurrection gives us a hope and new life and lights up the situation by ray of the luminously glorious Resurrection.

First Reading (Acts of the Apostles 10:34.37-43)

The Acts of the Apostles tells us that God raised Jesus from the dead on the third day and made him manifest to us, who are God's chosen witnesses.

Second Reading (Colossians 3:1-4)

St. Paul exhorts us to set our hearts and minds on the things which are rooted in holiness and truth.

Gospel (John 20:1-9)

The gospel passage tells us that the empty tomb, and the state of the burial clothes, made Peter and John, the disciples of Jesus believe that Christ had risen from the dead.

Prayer Of The Faithful

Dear sisters and brothers, on this Easter Sunday as we rejoice for the resurrection of Jesus from the dead let us thank and praise God the Father of Jesus and our Father and offer him our humble prayers saying :
R: Lord, Listen to your People Praying.

Fathers, we bring to you today all the intentions, desires and anxieties of the whole Church, especially of our Pope, bishops, priests and religious. May they all irradiate the joy of the resurrection in the fulfillment of their ministries.

R: Lord, Listen to your People Praying.



Liturgy Cycle C

Lord, we pray for Christians all over the world. May they remain true to the new life they received at baptism and live always with the life of the risen Christ.

R: Lord, Listen to your People Praying.

Lord, we present to you all those who this Easter have received new life by baptism. May they discover in the face of the risen Christ their new brothers and sisters in the Lord.

R: Lord, Listen to your People Praying.

We pray for the sick and the dying whom Christ invites in a special way to share in his sufferings. Strengthen their faith with the certainty of their resurrection with him.

R: Lord, Listen to your People Praying.

Lord we pray for all of us gathered here around your altar and for our dear ones. May the joy of the resurrection of your son dispel every trace of sadness and sorrow from our hearts.

R: Lord, Listen to your People Praying.

Let us pray:

Merciful Father, the resurrection of Jesus is your answer to sin and death. We thank you for the life of the Spirit he obtained for us. Help us to be faithful witnesses of his resurrection to all men. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Offertory:

Candles: Heavenly Father, we offer you these candles, a symbol of our reverence to our Creator, Protector and Provider. The candle that spreads light, happiness and joy to the entire world. May this candle illuminate the path of all human race.

Flowers: Heavenly Father, we offer you these flowers of varied shape, size and color that spread fragrance to all without discrimination. Just as the flowers, Lord help us Christians to spread the message of Love, for which you sacrificed your only son, without discrimination of caste, creed and color.

Bread and Wine: Heavenly Father, we offer you this Bread and wine that you offered two thousand years ago to your disciples, just before accomplishing your mission on earth. Father, help us to continue this commemoration for all ages to come. Lord, may we see the day, when the entire humanity will be present at your banquet.



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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 was another, and 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.**