

HOLY WEEK AT HOME



HOLY THURSDAY

Bread and soup during the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Leader: Today we are unable to take part (with Fr ____) in the Mass of the Lord's Supper. But we can now join ourselves spiritually to Jesus Christ the Lord as he embarks on the journey of his passion and death.

All: Lord Jesus, we love you above all things. How we long to receive holy communion at the altar, to be one with you and all our brothers and sisters! Although we cannot now receive the blessed sacrament, come, be in our hearts. Live within us and give us life. Feed us with the manna of the Holy Spirit and never let us be separated from you. Amen.

Spend a time together in prayer.
Pray for those in need, especially those who are sick or who have died from the coronavirus. Remember those who are alone or frightened. Commend the members of your family to God's loving care.
Intercede for those who are hungry and homeless.

Leader: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to pray:

All: Our Father, who art 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 evening, gather around the dining room table and, if possible, light a candle. When everyone is seated at the table, begin your prayer.

Tonight, we look forward to the coming days when Jesus Christ died and rose to new life.

FAMILY PRAYER

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: Jesus said, 'I am the bread of life. No one who comes to me will ever be hungry.' (Jn 6:35)

All: We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Reader: A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you: that on the same night 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.

All: Thanks be to God.

Spend a few minutes in silence to reflect on Jesus' words. What does St Paul mean when he says we are 'proclaiming his death'?

Leader: Together with the Virgin Mary, let us praise God.

All: My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him.
He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy.

Leader: Lord God,
in times of darkness, be our light,
in times of pain, be our strength,
in times of isolation and anxiety,
draw us into the healing love of Christ
who shared our human weakness
to bring us to the glory of resurrection.

All: Amen.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Finish by offering each member of your family a sign of peace.

HOLY WEEK AT HOME

GOOD FRIDAY

If you have a cross or crucifix, place it on the table in front of you.
If not, you may be able to make a simple cross.
Spend a moment to kneel and venerate the cross.

*"Behold the wood of the Cross
on which hung the salvation of the world."*

Now read aloud the story of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

1. Jesus left with his disciples and crossed the Kedron valley. There was a garden there, and he went into it with his disciples. Judas the traitor knew the place well, since Jesus had often met his disciples there, and he brought the cohort to this place together with a detachment of guards sent by the chief priests and the Pharisees, all with lanterns and torches and weapons. Knowing everything that was going to happen to him, Jesus then came forward and said, 'Who are you looking for?' They answered, 'Jesus the Nazarene.' He said, 'I am he.' Now Judas the traitor was standing among them. When Jesus said, 'I am he', they moved back and fell to the ground. He asked them a second time, 'Who are you looking for?' They said, 'Jesus the Nazarene.' Jesus replied, 'I have told you that I am he. If I am the one you are looking for, let these others go.' This was to fulfil the words he had spoken: 'Not one of those you gave me have I lost'.

Simon Peter, who carried a sword, drew it and wounded the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter, 'Put your sword back in its scabbard; am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?'

Pause for a time of silence.

2. The cohort and its captain and the Jewish guards seized Jesus and bound him. They took him first to Annas, because Annas was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had suggested to the Jews, 'It is better for one man to die for the people'.

Simon Peter, with another disciple, followed Jesus. This disciple, who was known to the high priest, went with Jesus into the high priest's palace, but Peter stayed outside the door. So the other disciple, the one known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who was keeping the door and brought Peter in. The maid on duty at the door said to Peter, 'Aren't you another of that man's disciples?' He answered, 'I am not.' Now it was cold, and the servants and guards had lit a charcoal fire and were standing there warming themselves; so Peter stood there too, warming himself with the others.

The high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. Jesus answered, 'I have spoken openly for all the world to hear; I have always taught in the synagogue and in the Temple where all the Jews meet together: I have said nothing in secret. But why ask me? Ask my hearers what I taught: they know what I said.' At these words, one of the guards standing by gave Jesus a slap in the face, saying, 'Is that the way to answer the high priest?' Jesus replied, 'If there is something wrong in what I said, point it out; but if there is no offense in it, why do you strike me?' Then Annas sent him, still bound, to Caiaphas, the high priest.

As Simon Peter stood there warming himself, someone said to him, 'Aren't you another of his disciples?' He denied it saying, 'I am not.' One of the high priest's servants, a relation of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, said, 'Didn't I see you in the garden with him?' Again Peter denied it; and at once a cock crew.

Pause for a time of silence.

3. They then led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the Praetorium. It was now morning. They did not go into the Praetorium themselves or they would be defiled and unable to eat the Passover. So Pilate came outside to them and said, 'What charge do you bring against this man?' They replied, 'If he were not a criminal, we should not be handing him over to you.' Pilate said, 'Take him yourselves, and try him by your own Law.' The Jews answered, 'We are not allowed to put a man to death.' This was to fulfil the words Jesus had spoken indicating the way he was going to die. So Pilate went back into the Praetorium and called Jesus to him, and asked, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent me being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.' Pilate said, 'So you are a king then?' Jesus answered, 'It is you who say it. Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this; to bear witness to the truth, and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.' Pilate said, 'Truth? What is that?' And with that he went out again to the Jews and said, 'I find no case against him. But according to a custom of yours I should release one prisoner at the Passover; would you like me, then, to release the king of the Jews?' At this they shouted, 'Not this man, but Barabbas.' Barabbas was a brigand.

Pilate then had Jesus taken away and scourged; and after this, the soldiers twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on his head, and dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him and saying, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' and they slapped him in the face.

Pause for a time of silence.

4. Pilate came outside and said to them, 'Look, I am going to bring him out to you to let you see that I find no case.' Jesus then came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said, 'Here is the man.' When they saw him the chief priests and the guards shouted, 'Crucify him! Crucify him!' Pilate said, 'Take him yourselves and crucify him: I can find no case against him.' The Jews replied, 'We have a Law, and according to the Law he ought to die, because he has claimed to be the son of God.' When Pilate heard them say this his fears increased. Re-entering the Praetorium, he said to Jesus, 'Where do you come from?' But Jesus made no answer. Pilate then said to him, 'Are you refusing to speak to me? Surely you know I have power to release you and I have power to crucify you?' Jesus replied, 'You would have no power over me if it had not been given you from above; that is why the one who handed me over to you has the greater guilt.'

From that moment Pilate was anxious to set him free, but the Jews shouted, 'If you set him free you are no friend of Caesar's; anyone who makes himself king is defying Caesar.' Hearing these words, Pilate had Jesus brought out, and seated himself on the chair of judgement at a place called the Pavement, in Hebrew Gabbatha. It was Passover Preparation Day, about the sixth hour. Pilate said to the Jews, 'Here is your king.' They said, 'Take him away, take him away. Crucify him!' Pilate said, 'Do you want me to crucify your king?' The chief priests answered, 'We have no king except Caesar.' So in the end Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified.

Pause for a time of silence.

6. It was Preparation Day, and to prevent the bodies remaining on the cross during the Sabbath - since the Sabbath was a day of special solemnity - the Jews asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken away. Consequently the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with him and then the other. When they came to Jesus, they found that he was already dead, and so instead of breaking his legs one of the soldiers pierced his side with a lance; and immediately there came out blood and water. This is the evidence of one who saw it - trustworthy evidence, and he knows he speaks the truth - and he gives it so that you may believe as well. Because all this happened to fulfil the words of scripture: *Not one bone of his will be broken*, and again, in another place scripture says: *They will look on the one whom they have pierced*.

After this, Joseph of Arimathaea, who was a disciple of Jesus though a secret one because he was afraid of the Jews asked Pilate to let him remove the body of Jesus. Pilate gave permission, so they came and took it away. Nicodemus came as well the same one who had first come to Jesus at night-time and he brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, following the Jewish burial custom. At the place where he had been crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been buried. Since it was the Jewish Day of Preparation and the tomb was near at hand, they laid Jesus there.

Pause for a time of silence.

5. They then took charge of Jesus, and carrying his own cross he went out of the city to the place of the skull, or, as it was called in Hebrew, Golgotha, where they crucified him with two others, one on either side with Jesus in the middle. Pilate wrote out a notice and had it fixed to the cross; it ran: 'Jesus the Nazarene, King of the Jews'. This notice was read by many of the Jews, because the place where Jesus was crucified was not far from the city, and the writing was in Hebrew, Latin and Greek. So the Jewish chief priests said to Pilate, 'You should not write 'King of the Jews', but 'This man said: I am King of the Jews'. Pilate answered, 'What I have written, I have written.'

When the soldiers had finished crucifying Jesus they took his clothing and divided it into four shares, one for each soldier. His undergarment was seamless, woven in one piece from neck to hem; so they said to one another, 'Instead of tearing it, let's throw dice to decide who is to have it.' In this way the words of scripture were fulfilled: *They shared out my clothing among them. They cast lots for my clothes*. This is exactly what the soldiers did.

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. Seeing his mother and the disciple he loved standing near her, Jesus said to his mother, 'Woman, this is your son.' Then to the disciple he said, 'This is your mother.' And from that moment the disciple made a place for her in his home.

After this, Jesus knew that everything had now been completed, and to fulfil the scripture perfectly he said, 'I am thirsty.' A jar full of vinegar stood there, so putting a sponge soaked in vinegar on a hyssop stick they held it up to his mouth. After Jesus had taken the vinegar he said, 'It is accomplished'; and bowing his head he gave up the spirit.

Pause for a time of silence.

Conclude your reflection on the Passion of the Lord by saying together the following prayer.

All: Almighty and all-merciful God,
lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds,
in whom there is no shadow of death,
save us in this time of crisis;
grant wisdom and courage to our leaders;
watch over all medical people
as they tend the sick and work for a cure;
stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation;
if our doors are closed, let our hearts be open.
By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear,
that hope may never die
and the light of Easter, the triumph of life,
may shine upon us and the whole world.
Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

HOLY WEEK AT HOME

EASTER SUNDAY

Water is a sign of life, the life of Christ begun at our baptism. Place a bowl of water on the table in front of you. Easter Sunday, the Day of the Lord's Resurrection, is an opportunity to renew our baptismal faith.

FAMILY PRAYER

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

All: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Leader: Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven,
exult, let Angel ministers of God exult,
let the trumpet of salvation
sound aloud our mighty King's triumph!
Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her,
ablaze with light from her eternal King,
let all corners of the earth be glad,
knowing an end to gloom and darkness.
Rejoice, let Mother Church also rejoice,
arrayed with the lightning of his glory,
let this holy building shake with joy,
filled with the mighty voices of the peoples.

Reader: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus, we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised 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.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Spend a few minutes in silence to think about the reading.
Perhaps parents could share the story of their children's baptism.

Leader: Let us renew the promises of our baptism.

All: WE RENOUNCE Satan, and all his works,
and all his empty promises.

WE BELIEVE in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.

WE BELIEVE in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered death and was buried,
rose again from the dead
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

WE BELIEVE in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.

Leader: And may almighty God,
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us a new birth
by water and the Holy Spirit
and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins,
keep us by his grace,
in Christ Jesus our Lord,
for eternal life.

All: Amen.

Family members now take some of the Easter water and bless themselves with it.

Make your own prayers for those who are sick or in need.

Ask God to protect them. Finish each prayer with:

Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Let us pray the family prayer of all the baptised
as Jesus taught us:

All: Our Father, who art 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.

Leader: May God bless us and keep us safe.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



This Man God Chose

What if Mary hadn't gone to the tomb that day? John tells us she got up in the darkness, the day after the Sabbath, as soon as religion allowed for work to be done. She had waited with great longing for the end of Saturday, so that she could return to the burial place and anoint the body of one she loved. When she arrived in that dark hour, she found the stone rolled away and her fear propelled her into the presence of the disciples. Jesus' body was stolen!

Her report mobilised the men, and so Easter came into being. But what if Mary had not returned to the site because of discouragement, fear, or sheer exhaustion? Would anyone have discovered the miracle? Often, we reach the end of our own personal passion week, and never make it to the empty tomb. Lots of things conspire to keep us away. Love is the only reason to go forward, to find that the night is ended, and a new world has dawned.

What difference does the resurrection of Jesus make to you?

Raise up a fallen friend. Lift up a lonely heart. Bring the morning to someone who is wrapped in darkness. Take one step beyond discouragement and fear and find Easter.

So, if you're serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ, act like it.



Glory Be!

My dad had a knack for gathering in troubled souls, and my mum had a talent for nurturing them back to health. My parents' charges didn't always stay well, but at least they were offered a moment of sanity in the chaos of their lives.

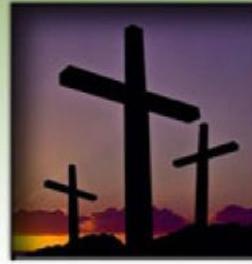
At Easter I always think of Butchie. She was a beautiful young woman, the daughter of a work friend of Dad's, who had a serious drug habit that she just couldn't seem to kick. She'd worn out her welcome at the home of every friend and relation, so she came knocking on Big John Tuohy's door. Dad said, sure she could come live with us as long as she stayed sober, kept a job, and didn't give my mother any worries. My dad let her know he hoped she'd be going to Mass with us. "Next Sunday is Easter," he told her. "Bonnets are required".

After most of the appropriately and demurely adorned congregation filed into church Easter morning, in traipsed the Tuohy clan. Hushed gasps and quelled guffaws followed as the congregation beheld Butchie in all her glory: red shoes, red stockings, red shoes, and a red straw bonnet with black netting and loads of feathers. She looked like a crimson bird of paradise.

The homespun life didn't hold Butchie's interest for long. But for one brief moment she stood in the light of the Resurrection. I hope that light still shines on her.

Happy Easter to all from the GPBS team.

Holy Week Schedule



HOLY WEEK MASS SCHEDULE - Online & Channel 31

HOLY THURSDAY	9TH APRIL	THE LORD'S SUPPER	7.30PM
GOOD FRIDAY	10TH APRIL	THE WAY OF THE CROSS	11AM
		THE PASSION OF THE LORD	3PM
EASTER VIGIL SATURDAY	11TH APRIL		7.30PM
EASTER SUNDAY	12TH APRIL		11AM

ALL MASSES WILL BE TELEVISED ON CHANNEL 31 (CH 44 on digital TV) AS WELL AS VIA THE CATHEDRAL WEBSITE LINK.

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

**TO THOSE IN THE MIDST
OF THE COVID-19 CRISIS,
GOD IS STANDING ON THE FRONTLINES,
AND WE SAY THANK YOU!**



God of ordinary people, we want to hear your voice. May we welcome your voice in the health professionals, political leaders and community agencies. May we welcome your voice in the homeless, jobless and fearful. May we welcome your voice in our families, our schools, our friendships. We do not always welcome the voices of prophets because they make us uncomfortable with the way things are and the way things could be. This is our God, whose people we are. Amen.

FAMILY PRAYER

WEEK BY WEEK



Easter Sunday - Year A

12 April 2020

“The teaching of Scripture is that Jesus must rise from the dead.”

Something to Think About

The Easter season reminds us that we are not alone, that we have never been alone. Jesus is with us now and forever. We have reason to hope and to help! We have cause to celebrate! There is life in abundance and we are called to make a difference!

The Story

It was a dark, early Sunday morning. Jesus was dead. Mary Magdalene went to his tomb, but when she got there the stone at the entrance had been rolled away. The tomb was empty! Mary ran and told Peter and the other disciple that Jesus was gone. They went and checked for themselves. The tomb was empty because Jesus is risen! Alleluia!

The Scriptures

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

20:1-9

On Sunday morning while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran to Simon Peter and to Jesus' favourite disciple and said, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb! We don't know where they have put him." Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb.

They ran side by side, until the other disciple ran faster than Peter and got there first.

He bent over and saw the strips of linen cloth lying inside the tomb, but he did not go in.

When Simon Peter got there, he went into the tomb and saw the strips of cloth.

He also saw the piece of cloth that had been used to cover Jesus' face. It was rolled up and in a place by itself. The disciple who got there first then went into the tomb, and when he saw it, he believed. At that time Peter and the other disciple did not know that the Scriptures said Jesus would rise to life.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Family Discussion

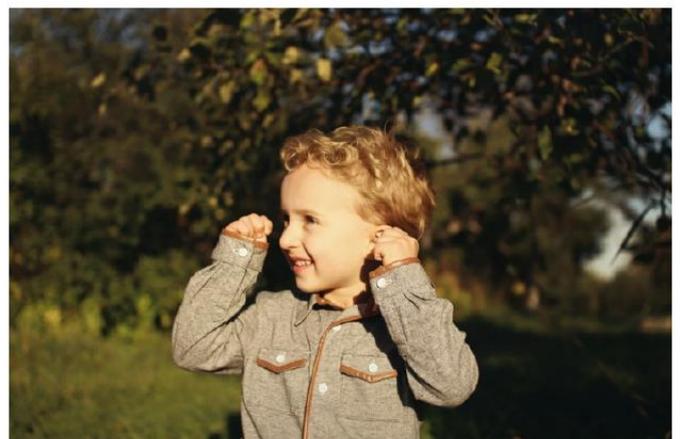
Imagine you were there on that first Easter morning and found the empty tomb.

How did you feel? What did you think? Whom did you tell?

Video

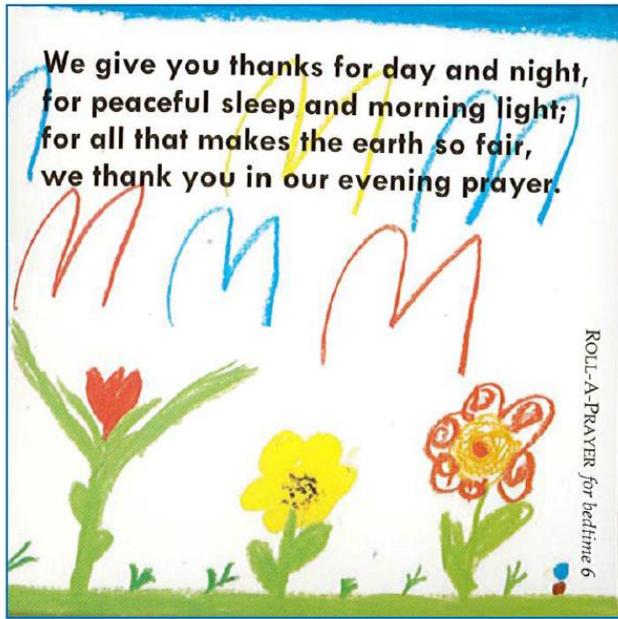
Click to watch the video:

[123 Jesus is Alive !](#)



THINGS TO DO THIS WEEK

Bedtime Prayer



Family Activity

Make some Easter cards and attach them to Easter eggs. Following safe distancing rules, leave an Easter egg and card at your grandparents' or neighbours' front door reminding them that *Jesus is Risen! Alleluia!*



NEW LIFE



**EASTER EGGS:
CELEBRATING THE NEW LIFE OF
JESUS, RISEN FROM THE DEAD**

SHARE YOUR JOY! SHARE YOUR LIFE!

**GIVE ONE OF YOUR EASTER
EGGS TO SOMEONE IN
YOUR FAMILY**