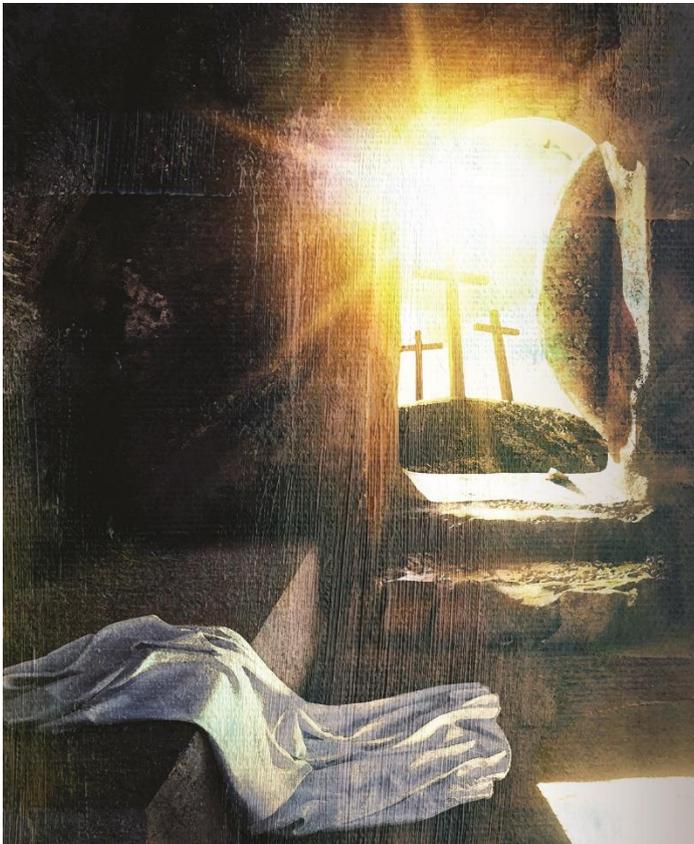


**WORSHIP @ HOME**  
**Easter Sunday - Yr B • 4 April 2021**  
**HOLY SPIRIT PARISH**



## EASTER SUNDAY

He bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. 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. - Jn 20:5-7

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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## Preparation

*There are a few things you need to do to get ready before you begin.*

- We recommend glancing through the whole service before you start. **Adapt the service for your family**, especially so it will be age-appropriate.
- **Prepare a bowl of water** and a sprig of a plant for the sprinkling rite.
- You could make the setting special by using a white table cloth and setting some candles out. Get the whole family involved in the preparations.
- **Place your family Bible on the table**, if you have one, opened up to the Gospel reading of the day (John 20:1-9).
- **The script has leader and various reader parts.** Anyone old enough to read well can perform these roles.
- **An iPad/tablet computer** or large phone could work well for reading the script. **It would be helpful to have two devices** for multiple people to read. To access the slideshow and hymns, visit: <https://worship.pastoral.center/day/2021-04-04>
- **Don't worry**, you don't have to do this perfectly. Have some fun with it. Let's pray!

## JUST BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- **Silence and set aside all phones** or other devices that may interrupt you.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

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### OPENING SONG

*Start playing the video for this opening song, and then scroll down to sing along with the lyrics.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VX6LsNoyczQ>

### GREETING

Leader: † In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: Grace and peace to you from God our Father  
and from the Lord Jesus Christ.  
Blessed be God forever.  
The response is: Blessed be God forever.

All: Blessed be God forever.

Leader: We gather together as a family to celebrate Easter,  
the greatest day of the Church year  
One with all of our sisters and brothers throughout the world,  
let us now listen to God's Word and join in prayer.

### SPRINKLING RITE

*Explain to your children that if you were in church now the priest would walk around and sprinkle everyone with water as a reminder of their own baptism. Invite your children to do a home sprinkling blessing now. They may dip the plant sprig (or just their hands if you don't have one) into the bowl of water and use it to sprinkle a blessing on everyone in the family now. Let them enjoy this moment, even if they get you a bit wetter than you would like.*

Leader: God has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit.  
May we stay faithful to Jesus for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

### OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.

*Pause for a short time for everyone to pray in silence. Then pray the following out loud, carefully and with meaning.*

Leader: Gracious God,  
By raising Jesus from the dead you conquered death.  
Hear us as we ask your blessing  
for all those who are sick in our world today.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

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## LITURGY OF THE WORD

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*Pause for a few moments before continuing.*

### ALLELUIA

*Play the video below. Listen to the refrain the first time, then sing together when it repeats.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FbxKdSk2dKI>

### GOSPEL

Reader 1: The first disciples did not understand what we do.  
They thought Jesus was dead and buried in a tomb.  
We know that Jesus is risen! Alleluia!

*Lead your family in this action prayer, making the Sign of the Cross over your forehead, lips, and heart at each step.*

Reader 1: We now do this action prayer together:

May the Lord be on my mind, †  
on my lips, †  
and in my heart †  
as we hear the Gospel today.

A reading from the holy Gospel of John.

*If you'd like to read the Gospel as a group, click on the "Parts" tab. Or read out of your own Bible (John 20:1-9).  
**If at all possible, play the slideshow (just below the text) while reading.** The highlighted numbers in the text  
correspond to the slide numbers.*

*This text is based on the translation used in the Lectionary for Masses with Children and is easier for young people to understand.*

Reader 2: Early in the morning on the third day after Jesus died, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb.  
She had oils to anoint his body and prepare it to be buried.  
She saw that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance.

Mary Magdalene hurried to find Peter and the other disciples.

"Quick! Come and see!" she said.  
"Someone has moved the stone.  
The Lord has been taken away from his tomb  
and we don't know where they have taken him."

Peter and the disciple that Jesus loved ran to the tomb.  
Peter was the slower runner.  
The first disciple bent over and saw the strips of linen cloth lying inside the tomb,  
but he did not go in.

When Peter finally 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.  
The other disciple then went into the tomb, and when he saw it, he believed.

*John 20:1-9. Excerpted and adapted from I Want to Be Jesus: Easy-to-Use Scripts for the Sunday Gospels © 1999 Carol Camp Twork. All rights reserved. Published by The Pastoral Center / PastoralCenter.com. Scripture quotations are paraphrased from the Contemporary English Version, copyright © American Bible Society, 1991, 1995.*

Reader 2: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## GOSPEL SLIDESHOW

*Play this while reading the Gospel above. Click the full-screen icons to enlarge.*

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1hUsdRbEhA4zxhdM-ECxR1qxQ8kK1augdWbvoduwrV-0/edit#slide=id.g82b4b6cc34\\_2\\_10](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1hUsdRbEhA4zxhdM-ECxR1qxQ8kK1augdWbvoduwrV-0/edit#slide=id.g82b4b6cc34_2_10)

## GOSPEL ILLUSTRATION

*This three-minute video begins with today's gospel story and then summarizes the whole Easter Season story. Once you start playing, click the full-screen icons to enlarge.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XOgKAAuEpcE&t=1s>

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

*If your parish has provided a homily video online, you could play it here. Either way, take some time to talk together about what the readings mean to each of you. You can do this however you would like, but here are some suggestions.*

On Easter Sunday we celebrate the greatest mystery of our Christian faith—that Jesus, who was crucified and died on the cross, rose again from the dead.

- Let's imagine that it was *your* family who went to the tomb to anoint the body of your friend Jesus. Who would be the first one to get to the tomb? What would you feel when you got there and discovered the stone had been rolled away and Jesus' body was gone? Scared? Confused? Excited? What would you do then? Mary Magdalen ran to tell Peter and the other apostles that Jesus had risen. Who would you run to with the news? Would they believe you?
- Many things in our everyday world remind us of this amazing mystery: a seed, caterpillar and butterfly, popcorn kernel, a sunrise, an egg, a baby, and springtime. How is each of these a symbol of new life that can come out of darkness, suffering, and death?

- Jesus' family and friends and disciples didn't understand that he was going to rise from the dead until after it happened. We probably wouldn't believe a seed can turn into a plant, a caterpillar can turn into a butterfly, or a popcorn kernel can turn into something good to eat if we hadn't seen it happen or had someone else who we trust tell us that it happens. When have you had to trust someone else that things would get better?
- Even though we still have to be cautious because of the coronavirus, what can you do today to celebrate and remind yourselves—and others—that life always comes after death?

## GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Leader: Now let's pray together to God for what we need.

Reader 2: We pray in memory of all those who have died of the coronavirus in the past year, and for all their loved ones who still miss them, that they may be comforted.  
let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray in thanksgiving for all those who have worked so hard to keep people safe during the pandemic and for the gift of the vaccines that are promising a light at the end of this long tunnel.  
let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: For those who are worried, lonely, or scared now,  
let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader 2: For what else and for who else shall we pray?

*Allow time for anyone else to speak prayers aloud.*

## LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Jesus taught us to call God our Father, and so we have the courage to say:

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.

## SIGN OF PEACE

Leader: Let us now offer each another a sign of peace.

*Share some hugs!*

## A LITANY FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Leader: The response is: Lord, bring us closer to you!

All: Lord, bring us closer to you!

Leader: Lord our God,  
we wish we could gather today with our parish community,  
but we gather here out of love and concern for others.  
You teach us that when two or three are gathered in your name,  
you are there.  
Together, we pray:

All: Lord, bring us closer to you!

Leader: Christ Jesus, you are present in a special way  
when bread and wine are turned into your Body and Blood.  
Since we cannot receive you in this way today,  
We ask that you enter our hearts  
so that we may receive you spiritually.  
Together, we pray:

All: Lord, bring us closer to you!

Leader: Lord our God,  
watch over your family  
and keep us safe in your care,  
for all our hope is in you.

All: Lord, bring us closer to you!

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## Concluding Rite

### BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Leader: Christ is risen! Alleluia, alleluia!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

### CLOSING SONG

*Play the video below and sing along. Follow along with the hand motions and movements. Click the full-screen (four arrows) icons to enlarge.*

<https://worship.pastoral.center/day/2021-04-04>

## After the Service

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### SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE

Take a picture of your family in your worship area and share it on social media (tag it with **#HolySpiritStClairWorshipAtHome**).

### PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PARISH

Your parish still has to pay the electric bill and your staff, even when public Masses are cancelled. If you haven't already, sign up for electronic payments or mail in a check today. Planned Giving Forms and online donation portal are available on the parish website: <https://holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations/>. Or you can send your donation to:

#### *FIRST COLLECTION: For the Augustinian Clergy*

Account Name: Augustinian Fathers  
Bank: CBA  
BSB: 067 950  
Account Number: 000 030 02

#### *SECOND COLLECITON: For the Parish*

Account Name: Holy Spirit Parish St Clair  
Bank: CBA  
BSB: 067 950  
Account Number: 000 005 78

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