

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

HOLY EVENING VIGIL

(April 11, 2020)

Family Prayer

Things to prepare

An adorned candle

A Bible

A vessel with water

1. Trinitarian Invocation

While the guide leads, everyone else cross themselves:

In the name of the Father, the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

2. Acclamation

The guide says:

Lord, Jesus Christ, died and resurrected, to you be all honor, glory and praise, for ever and ever.

All: Amen

3. Introduction

The guide says:

Gathered as a family on this Holy Night in which Christ our Easter has risen, let us be filled with jubilee and of the joy that his resurrection overflows the world. Let us also be overflowed by this paschal joy, may the Word of God encourage and enlighten us to comprehend and live what it means to participate of the life of the risen one.

4. Contemplation

At this moment we place this candle which tomorrow will be lit from the Paschal candle of the church, which symbolizes its triumph over death. At the beginning of this day we are at the expectation that when the sun rises and the Paschal candle of the community is lit, this candle will be lighting our contemplation and our home.

(The unlit candle is placed in the table).

5. Easter Announcement

A lector creates a brief expectant silence, then reads in intense tone the following announcement:

- Family, prepare to see and admire the gift that the dawn of this day will bring us, a radiant morning, of the Easter of Christ: the light of the Risen One which will shine among us.
- It will be a light that destroys the night and the darkness of death and will bring us the sun without sunset the day that today will dawn.
- It will be a victorious light which will dissipate lies, treason, and deceit. It will be a resplendent light which will shine before our eyes the one who is the truth.
- It will be a light with the aroma of the blooming Easter which opens itself to life and breaks the shroud of inert winter.
- A blazing light which will illuminate the throbbing of our lives, lives full of the phrase: "Let it be", which will be the seed of eternal life.
- That light is Christ: the victor of the shadows of death, who grants us his perpetual light to illuminate the path of our existence.
- He destroyed death through his death and lives for ever with new life for Him and for all of us the baptized.
- That is why, let us celebrate the resurrected, the groom of the Church, the victor of death and the one who is the key to eternal life.
- Let us live this blooming Easter intoning Glory's and Hallelujahs from this radiant night of the Resurrection!

6. Word of God

The guide says:

Let us now hear how in the old alliance, God saved His people and in the fullness of time, he sent his Son to the world to redeem us. Let us pray so that God brings to completion the redemption made by the Paschal Mystery.

- **First Reading**

The first lector reads: Ex: 14, 15-15, 1

After the reading, the lector says: The Word of the Lord **and we all respond:** Thanks be to God

- **Responsorial Psalm** – From Psalm 15

The psalmist says the psalm's verses and to each one all will respond:

All: We praise the Lord for his victory.

- **Epistle**

The second lector reads: Romans 6:3-11

At the end of the reading the lector says: Word of the Lord **and all respond:** Thanks be to God.

Before the Gospel

The guide says:

The moment has come to announce the resurrection of the Lord. Before hearing on this fact, let us joyfully praise God the Father, who has risen Jesus Christ from the dead.

All sing: Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Gospel

A lector proclaims the Gospel. And the candle is lit.

Hear the words of the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew 28:1-10

After the proclamation of the Gospel, the lector says: Word of the Lord, and all respond: Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The guide says:

In the silence of our hearts let us meditate the Word of the Lord.

Keep a moment of silence and then we answer the following questions:

What is the message the Angel asked the women to take? Why did it cause the women so much joy to see Jesus risen? Why should the resurrection also be a cause for our joy? Who does Jesus send us today so that we know that he is alive, and he has risen?

7. Profession of Faith

(At this moment place water on the table and it will be our lustral water or Paschal water)

The guide says:

In baptism, we have all been made participants of the Paschal Mystery of Christ, that is, we have been buried with Him in his death to resurrect with Him into new life. That is why, on this Holy Day let us together make the profession of faith.

All: I believe in one God...

(A baptismal hymn can be intoned)

8. Prayer

The guide says:

Let us pray to Jesus Christ risen, life and hope for the entirety of humanity.

After each petition we will respond:

Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.

- **The guide says:** For the Church that was born from the open side wound of Christ in the cross so that each day He gives constant testimony of the resurrection of the Lord. Let us pray.

All: Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.

- **The guide says:** For the elected who on this night will receive the sacraments of Christian Initiation Baptism or Confirmation and the Eucharist, so that they live always led by the strength of the Holy Spirit. Let us pray.

All: Risen Jesus, Hear our prayer.

- **The guide says:** For all humanity who suffers the fright and fear of this pandemic so that the Easter of Christ fills them with peace and serenity. Let us pray.

All: Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.

- **The guide says:** For our family who is gathered on this Holy Night; so that the Easter of Jesus Christ intensifies in us the ties of union, love and charity. Let us pray.

All: Risen Jesus, hear our prayer.

The guide says:

Because Christ has risen, we are also children of God and we can confidently tell Him”

All: Our Father...

The guide says:

Lord Jesus Christ hear our prayers and extend your mercy over those who prayed. You who lives and reigns, immortal and glorious, for ever and ever.

All: Amen

9. Commemoration to the Virgin Mary at Easter

(At this moment place at the table a bouquet of flowers, symbolizing the Paschal joy of the Virgin Mary and ours who are her children).

The guide says:

No one has existed with so much joy for the resurrection of her Son like that of the Virgin Mary. That is why for many centuries the Church, on the 50 days of Easter, has greeted her with a special prayer proper for this Time of Easter. So that our family experiences with Her the joy of Easter on this Holy Night, we greet her saying:

The guide invites all to say Regina Caeli:

- The guide says: Queen of heaven, rejoice, Alleluia
All: Because Christ, whom you took to her bosom, Alleluia
- The guide says: He has resurrected according to the word, Alleluia
All: Pray to the Lord for us, Alleluia
- The guide says: Rejoice and be glad, o Holy Virgin Mary, Alleluia
All: Because truly He has risen to the Lord, Alleluia

The guide says:

God and our Father, that through the Paschal Mystery of your Son you filled with blessings and of gifts of the Holy Spirit to the Virgin Mary, grant us, through your intercession of she whom we venerate under the advocacy of Guadalupe, may we participate of the same gifts to proclaim with our works and words the good news of the resurrection. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

10. Final Invocation

While the guide makes the invocation, all cross yourselves:

“The Lord bless us, keep us from all evil and lead us to life everlasting.”

All: Amen

The guide says: Let us bless the Lord

All: Let us give thanks to God

11. Closing Song

The guide invites all to sing:

He is risen, He is risen, He is risen, Alleluia!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, He is risen!

12. Festive celebration

Let us celebrate filled with joy as a family the great occurrence of our redemption through the Paschal dinner. Due to the circumstances we are living, it may be simple but meaningful.

Prepared by: Subsidio Pastoral para Semana Santa
Conferencia de Obispos de Mexico
Mexican Conference of Bishops