

THE BASILICA OF SAINT LONGINUS THE CENTURION

Mother Church of the Holy Catholic Church of the Gospels

EASTER SUNDAY RITE

According to the Use of the Holy Catholic Church of the Gospels

His Eminence, the Bishop Ecclesia presiding

I. THE GATHERING

Celebrant: ✠ Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Celebrant: Glory to God who raised Jesus from the dead and has given us victory in His name.

People: Alleluia! Light has conquered the grave.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Prayer of the Day: God of glory and power, who on this day shattered death and opened the gates of eternal life: Raise us with Christ and renew our hearts through your Spirit, that we may be a people of resurrection, proclaiming life, justice, and mercy to all the world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Penitential Invitation

Celebrant:

Dear friends in Christ, as we gather to celebrate the Resurrection, let us also recall the ways we have fallen short in loving God and one another. With confidence in God's mercy, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

All (kneeling or bowing heads):

Most merciful God,

you created us in love and called us into covenant with you, but we have turned from your ways and wandered far from your truth.

We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have closed our ears to the cry of the poor, our hearts to the call of justice, and our lives to the gift of grace.

You came among us as Light, but we have clung to the shadows. You offered mercy, but we answered with indifference. You stretched out your arms in love, but we turned away, ashamed and afraid.

Yet still, you call us back. Still, you open your heart to ours. Still, your grace runs deeper than our faults.

Forgive us, O God. Wash us in your mercy; clothe us with your righteousness; and restore us to the joy of your salvation.

That walking as children of the Passion and the Resurrection, we may proclaim with our lips and our lives: Christ is risen! Christ will come again! In the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Celebrant (making the sign of the cross): Almighty God, who is rich in mercy, forgive you ✠ all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People: Amen.

II. THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading – Isaiah 65:17–25 Reader: A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress.

No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—and their descendants as well. Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear.

The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24

All: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; * his mercy endures forever. Let Israel now proclaim, * "His mercy endures forever."

The Lord is my strength and my song, * and he has become my salvation. There is a sound of exultation and victory * in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! * the right hand of the Lord is exalted! The right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"

I shall not die, but live, * and declare the works of the Lord. The Lord has punished me sorely, * but he did not hand me over to death.

Open for me the gates of righteousness; * I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord. "This is the gate of the Lord; * he who is righteous may enter."

I will give thanks to you, for you answered me * and have become my salvation. The same stone which the builders rejected * has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing, * and it is marvelous in our eyes. On this day the Lord has acted; * we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Second Reading – Acts 10:34–43

Reader: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all.

That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all

the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead.

All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

All: Alleluia, alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Gospel – John 20:1–18

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."

Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.

Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself.

Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet.

They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."

When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?"

Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!"

She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

III. THE HOMILY

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Amen.

✠ THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant: Let us affirm our faith through the Nicene Creed

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father [and the Son], who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

IV. PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Celebrant: On this day of joy and resurrection, we gather together to lift our voices in prayer to the God who makes all things new. Let us turn our hearts towards Him as we present our needs and the needs of the world.

Celebrant: For the Church throughout the world, may it boldly proclaim the risen Christ, offering hope and light to all in darkness.

People: Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: For peace among all nations and justice for the oppressed, that leaders may work together to build a world of equity and harmony.

People: Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: For all who suffer or are in need, especially the poor, the sick, the lonely, and those fleeing violence, that they may find comfort, support, and healing.

People: Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: For the Earth and all creation, may the resurrection hope inspire us to care for our planet with stewardship and compassion.

People: Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: For our country's leaders, including our president and all local governors, that they may lead with wisdom and integrity, guided by love for their people.

People: Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: For our own community, that we may be signs of new life, vessels of Christ's mercy, and actively contribute to the well-being of others.

People: Risen Christ, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Almighty God, we entrust these prayers to you, asking that you bring resurrection hope to all your people. Through Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

(In this online gathering, let us take a moment to speak peace into the world around us: to lift up in our hearts those we love, those in need, and those whom we struggle to love. Christ's peace is for all.)

V. THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Celebrant (raising the bread): Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the Bread of Life.

People: Blessed be God forever.

Celebrant (raising the chalice): Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

People: Blessed be God forever.

Eucharistic Dialogue:

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is truly right and just, our duty...Therefore, joining our voices with the choirs of angels, archangels, saints, and all the company of heaven, we sing this hymn of praise to your Glory:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: Pour out your Holy Spirit on these gift...eucharist prayers following

Celebrant: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

People: Amen.

VI. COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant and People: 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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Invitation to Communion

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world. ✠ Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

People: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray. Living God, you have opened to us the gate of glory. Through this holy meal, raise us to new life. May we who have received the Body and Blood of your Son be renewed in faith, strengthened in hope, and transformed in love. Amen.

Spiritual Communion (for those worshipping remotely):

Celebrant: For those who cannot now receive the Body and Blood of Christ, we offer this prayer of spiritual communion:

All: Lord Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I long to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

VII. RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS AND BLESSING

Celebrant: Through the waters of baptism, we were buried with Christ in his death and raised to share in his resurrection. As we celebrate the mystery of Easter, let us renew the covenant made in our baptism, affirming once more the promises by which we live.

Celebrant: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People: I do.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: 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 upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

People: Amen.

Celebrant: And now, may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, make you complete in every good work to do his will; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

People: Amen.

VIII. THE DISMISSAL

Deacon or Celebrant: Go forth into the world in the joy of the risen Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!