

PRAYING EASTER

We pause and remember that the Risen Lord Jesus is with us.
"Whenever two or three gather in My name,
there I am in their midst."

Alleluia!

This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad.

Alleluia!

John 20: 1-9

Early in the morning of the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away, so she ran off to Simon Peter and the other disciple (the one Jesus loved) and told them, "The Lord has been taken from the tomb! We don't know where they have put Him!" At that, Peter and the other disciple started out on their way toward the tomb. They were running side by side, but then the other disciple ran faster than Peter and reached the tomb first. He did not enter but bent down to peer in and saw the wrappings lying on the ground. Presently, Simon Peter came along behind him and entered the tomb. He observed the wrappings on the ground and saw the piece of cloth which had covered the head not lying with the wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the disciple who had arrived first at the tomb went in. He saw and believed.



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Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer your thankful praise.

A Lamb the sheep redeems, Christ only Who is sinless,
reconciles sinners to the father.

Death and life have contended in that combat stupendous;
the Prince of life, Who died,
reigns immortal.

Speak, Mary, declaring what you saw wayfaring,
The tomb of Christ Who is living.
The glory of Jesus' resurrection.

Bright angels attesting, the shroud and napkin resting.
Yes, Christ my hope has arisen.
To Galilee He goes before you.

Christ indeed from death is risen, our new life obtaining.
Have mercy, Victor king ever reigning!
Amen. Alleluia!

Psalm 118

Give thanks to the Lord for He is good,
for His mercy endures forever.

It is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to trust in people.

It is better to trust in the Lord
than to trust in people in high places.

I will give thanks to You for You have answered me
and have been my Savior.

By the Lord has this been done,
it is wonderful in our eyes.

Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord;
we bless You from the house of the Lord.

I will give thanks to You for You have answered me
and have been my Savior.

Give thanks to the Lord for He is good;
for His kindness endures forever.

Alleluia!

Meditation of Saint John Baptist de La Salle

The resurrection of Jesus Christ should procure for you the benefit of making you rise spiritually by causing you to live according to grace. This means it will cause you to enter an entirely new heavenly life.

Saint Paul tells us that since we are risen with Christ to seek the things that are above, Love the things of heaven, not the things that are on earth. Be totally in God in Jesus Christ. Put off the old person in order to be clothed in the new. Show by your conduct that the resurrection of Jesus Christ has produced happy effects in you.

Hymn

This is the feast of the victory of our God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Worthy is Christ the Lamb Who was slain,

Whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength and honor,

blessings and glory are His.

Sing with all the people of God,

and join in the hymn of all creation.

Blessing, glory, honor and might be to God

and the Lamb forever. Amen.

For the Lamb Who was slain

has begun His reign. Alleluia!

(Lutheran Book of Worship)

Reflection

As for Mary Magdalene, so for the two disciples on the way to Emmaus, faith is a joyous and grateful acceptance of Christ's coming, of His generous presence, and therefore of the mission of bringing the good news to others by word and life. This is, and will always be, the very heart of evangelization. Those who have found the Risen Lord and who hear Him with a sincere heart will be witnesses of His saving presence.

(Bernard Haring, Prayer: The Integration of Prayer and Life)

Intercessions

God has raised up for us a mighty Savior Who chose to lay down His life for us. With renewed confidence we say, Raise us up with You Christ Jesus.

Lamb of God You returned from death to bring peace.

May we learn to return blessing for injury.

Redeemer of us all, enlighten us who still walk in the shadow of death.

May we with Your new life conquer our addictions and our prejudices.

Christ Jesus, Your victory has changed our sorrow into joy.

Help us to share Your joy with all whom we encounter.

Paschal Victim, You have opened a new way of hope for our world.

May our lives incarnate that hope to the despairing, the indifferent and the lonely.

Resurrected Lord, You have transformed our universe.

Sensitize us to a new, all-embracing concern for our environment and a respectful regard for all creatures that share our common Creator.

Promise of everlasting life,

May all who have died awake to a new life in You.

Remembrance

Christ has risen while earth slumbers, Christ is risen where hope died.
As He said and as He promised as we doubted and denied.
Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer.
Let the world confirm the rumor: Christ is risen, God is here.

Christ is risen for the people Whom He died to love and save.
Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to his grave.
Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room.
He Whose word inspired creation can't be silenced by the tomb.

Christ has risen to companion former friends who fear the night.
Sensing loss and limitation where their faith had once burned bright.
They bemoan what is no longer, they expect no hopeful sign
till Christ ends their conversation, breaking bread and sharing wine.

Christ is risen and forever lives to challenge and to change
all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen!, Christ is present making us what He has been,
evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.

Prayer

O God, in the Paschal mystery You have saved the world.
Support the weakness of Your people by Your grace
that we may attain true freedom and walk in the way of Jesus,
the Lord, on our journey to You.
Amen. Alleluia!



Litany

Jesus, Redeemer of all people, fill us with joy.
Jesus, Conqueror of sin and evil, keep us undefiled.
Jesus, triumphant over death, give us hope in the resurrection.
Jesus, the Resurrection and the Life, fill us with Your life.
Jesus, the Giver of grace, let Your Spirit dwell in us.
Jesus, Just Judge of the world, help us to lead lives worthy of You.



May the Risen Lord Jesus be with us today and everyday
and may the spirit of Jesus be forever in our hearts.
Let us look up and live and celebrate.
our Risen Lord is here with us.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



We are an Easter people
and
Alleluia is our song!