



# Easter Sunday

April 12, 2020

## Prayer for the Times

Lord Jesus Christ, our Divine Physician, we ask you to guard and protect us from Coronavirus COVID-19 and all serious illness. For all that have died from it, have mercy; for those that are ill now, bring healing. For those searching for a remedy, enlighten them; for medical caregivers helping the sick, strengthen and shield them. For those working to contain the spread, grant them success; for those afraid, grant peace. May your precious blood be our defense and salvation. By your grace, may you turn the evil of disease into moments of consolation and hope. May we always fear the contagion of sin more than any illness. We abandon ourselves to your infinite mercy. Amen

*-Pedro de la Cruz*

## Introductory Rites

### Opening Hymn

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

1. Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!  
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
who did once upon the cross Alleluia!  
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

2. Hymns of praise then let us sing Alleluia!  
unto Christ our heav'nly King, Alleluia!  
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

3. But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!  
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!  
now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!  
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

4. Sing we to our God above Alleluia!  
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!  
praise him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia!  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

## Gloria

### Opening Prayer

### First Reading

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Peter proceeded to speak and said:  
"You know what has happened all over Judea,  
beginning in Galilee after the baptism  
that John preached,  
how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth  
with the Holy Spirit and power.  
He went about doing good  
and healing all those oppressed by the devil,  
for God was with him.  
We are witnesses of all that he did  
both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem.  
They put him to death by hanging him on a tree.  
This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible,  
not to all the people, but to us,  
the witnesses chosen by God in advance,  
who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.  
He commissioned us to preach to the people  
and testify that he is the one appointed by God  
as judge of the living and the dead.  
To him all the prophets bear witness,  
that everyone who believes in him  
will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

### Responsorial

**Alleluia**

### Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-4

Brothers and sisters:  
If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above,  
where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.  
Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.  
For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.  
When Christ your life appears,  
then you too will appear with him in glory.

## Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim  
Offer your thankful praises!  
A Lamb the sheep redeems;  
Christ, who only 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 is 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.

## Gospel Acclamation

### Alleluia, alleluia

Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed;  
let us then feast with joy in the Lord.

### Alleluia, alleluia

## Gospel

John 20:1-9

On the first day of the week,  
Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning,  
while it was still dark,  
and saw the stone removed from the tomb.  
So she ran and went to Simon Peter  
and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them,  
"They have taken the Lord from the tomb,  
and we don't know where they put him."  
So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb.  
They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter  
and arrived at the tomb first;  
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.  
Then the other disciple also went in,  
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,  
and he saw and believed.  
For they did not yet understand the Scripture  
that he had to rise from the dead.

## Homily

### THE DARK SIDE OF THE RESURRECTION

*"Early in the morning on 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." —John 20:1*

Jesus is risen from the dead! Alleluia! "This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it" (Ps 118:24).

I am writing this teaching for Easter with an IV in my arm, as I await having a tube put down my throat. This may be followed by other tortures, which may lead to surgery. What kind of Easter celebration is this!? "While it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb" (Jn 20:1). Easter often begins when it's dark. Possibly you are still in the night of a broken heart, painful marriage, shattered family, severe sickness, or pervasive pain. However, without the darkness of night, we would never see the sun rise. Without Jesus' death on Calvary, He would not have risen.

If you begin this Easter season struggling to hope against hope (Rm 4:18), renew your baptismal promises and have faith in the Father through Jesus and in the Spirit. "Walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Cor 5:7). Jesus is risen! He has victory over the darkness, and He will manifest it in your life. "At nightfall, weeping enters in, but with the dawn, rejoicing" (Ps 30:6). Rejoice in the risen Christ! Rejoice by faith! Rejoice when you are still in your night, for Jesus is the Light Who is sure to dawn (see 2 Pt 1:19; cf Rv 22:16). Alleluia forever!

## Renewal of Baptismal Promise

## Prayers of the Faithful

1. For the whole Church in this Easter season, that we feel the enthusiasm of the Christians spreading the good news,  
Let us pray to the Lord.
2. For all in positions of authority, that they be the yeast that transforms society and heal our fragile earth,  
Let us pray to the Lord.
3. For all Christian women and men, that they may be witnesses of the resurrected Christ in all they say and do,  
Let us pray to the Lord.
4. For caregivers, healthcare workers, and those who work to cure diseases, that they know the compassionate love and wisdom of Jesus,  
Let us pray to the Lord.
5. For our parishioners, our students and others who are sick, that they find strength and courage in the cross of Christ and discover the redemptive value of their suffering,  
Let us pray to the Lord.
6. For our faith community, as we gather separately to celebrate the Lord's rising from the dead that we may recognize Him in one another,  
Let us pray to the Lord.

## Communion Hymn

*Without Seeing You*

Refrain: Without seeing you we love you.  
Without touching you we embrace.  
Without knowing you we follow.  
Without seeing you we believe.

1. We return to you deep within,

Leave the past to the dust.  
Turn to you with tears and fasting,  
You are ready to forgive  
Refrain

2. The sparrow will find a home  
Near to you oh God.  
How happy we who dwell with you,  
Forever in your house.  
Refrain

3. Forever we sing to you  
Of your goodness, O God;  
Proclaiming to all the world  
Of your faithfulness and love.  
Refrain

4. For you are our shepherd  
There is nothing that we need.  
In green pastures we will find our way,  
In waters of peace.  
Refrain

### **Spiritual Communion Prayer**

My Jesus,  
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,  
come at least 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

### **Recessional**

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Let the Holy Anthem Rise*

2. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Like the sun from out the wave,

Christ has risen up in triumph  
From the darkness of the grave,  
Glorious splendor of the nations,  
And the lamp of endless day;  
Christ the very Lord of glory  
Who is risen up today.

4. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Blessed Jesus, make us rise  
From the life of this corruption  
To the life that never dies.  
May your glory be our portion  
When the days of time are past,  
And the dead shall be awakened  
By the trumpet's mighty blast.