

The Easter Vigil 2025



Alpha and Omega
The Beginning and the End
Yesterday and Today
Christ is Risen

Welcome

The Blessing of the Fire

'This is the Passover of the Lord.
we honour his death and resurrection
hoping one day to share his victory over death
and to live with him for ever in the kingdom of God.



We bless the fire

We light and bless the Easter Candle

Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end
Alpha and Omega,
All time belongs to him and all the ages
to him be glory and power for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Procession: The light of Christ: **Thanks be to God.**

We enter the church unhurriedly and light our candles passing the light to each other from the Easter Candle after the 2nd 'Christ our Light'.

When the Easter Candle is in its place and is incensed we hold the lit candles as we join in singing the Easter Proclamation

The Easter Proclamation

Cantor: Rejoice, Heavenly powers, sing, choirs of angels!
Exult all creation around God's throne!
Jesus Christ, our King is risen. Sound the trumpet of salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour, radiant in the brightness of
your King. Christ has conquered! Glory fills you. Darkness
vanishes for ever!

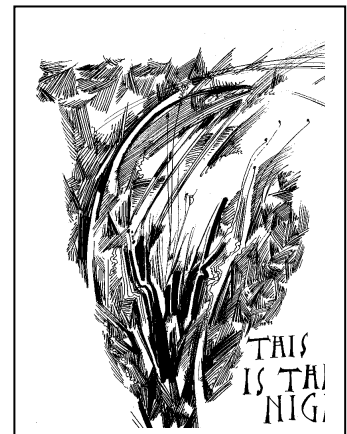
**Choir: Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory! The Risen
Saviour shines on you. Let this place resound with joy,
echoing the mighty song of all God's people!**

*Priest: My dearest friends, standing with me in this holy light,
join me in asking God for mercy,
that he may give his unworthy ministers
grace to sing his Easter praises.*

The Lord be with you: **and with your spirit**
Lift up your hearts: **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God: **It is right and just.**

*It is truly right that with full hearts and minds & voices we should
praise the unseen God, the all-powerful Father, & his only Son, our
Lord Jesus Christ. For Christ has ransomed us with his blood, &
paid for us the price of Adam's sin to our eternal Father.*

This is our Passover feast when
Christ the true Lamb is slain
whose blood consecrates the homes
of all believers.



This is the night: **This is the night** when first you saved our fathers;
you saved the people of Israel from slavery and led them dry-shod through the sea.

This is the night! **This is the night** when the pillar of fire destroyed the darkness of sin.

This is the night! **This is the night** when Christians everywhere, washed clean of sin and freed from all defilement, are restored to grace and grow together in holiness.

This is the night! **This is the night when Jesus Christ broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave.**

What good would life have been to us, had Christ not come as our redeemer? Father, how wonderful your care for us! How boundless your merciful love! To ransom a slave you gave away your Son.

O Happy Fault! **O Happy fault**, O necessary Sin of Adam which gained for us to great a Redeemer!

Most blessed of all nights! **Most Blessed of all nights chosen by God to see Christ rising from the dead.**
Priest

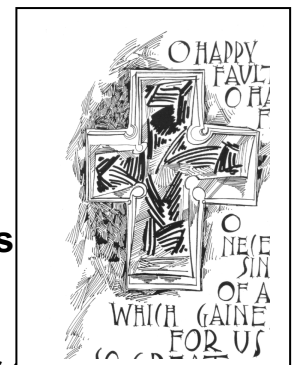
Of this night scripture says: "The night will be as clear as day, it will become my light, my joy."

The power of this night dispels all evil, washes guilt away, restores lost innocence, brings mourners joy; it casts out hatred, brings us peace, and humbles earthly pride.

Night truly blessed! **Night truly blessed !**
when heaven is wed to earth and man is reconciled with God.

Priest

Therefore, Heavenly Father, in the joy of this night receive our evening sacrifice of praise, your church's solemn off'ring. Accept



this Easter candle, a flame divided but undimmed, a pillar of fire that glows to the honour of God. Let it mingle with the lights of heaven and continue bravely burning to dispel the darkness of this night.

**May the morning star which never sets
find this flame still burning.**

**Christ that morning star, who came back from the dead,
and shed his peaceful light on all mankind,
your son who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen. Amen.**

We sit

The Liturgy of the Word

1st Reading Genesis 1:1-2:2

Psalm 32

Here is a psalm that many say was sung to celebrate the New Year festival. It's probably a good idea to have this in mind at a Vigil, which celebrates the new creation that springs to life for all of us at Easter! This hymn brings together the work of God in creation and the Word at work in history: Truly, "The Lord fills the earth with his love!"

Psalm 32



He fills the earth with his love.

The word of the Lord is faithful, we trust him in all he does.
The Lord loves justice, justice and fairness, he fills the earth,
he fills the earth, he fills the earth with his love.

He fills the earth with his love.

By his word the heav'ns were made;
the breath of his mouth made the stars.
The Lord looks on those, those who revere him, on those who
hope, on those who hope, on those who hope in his love.
He fills the earth with his love.

And so we await the Lord, the Lord is our help and shield.
We trust that your love will be upon us, we place all our hope, we
place all our hope, we place all our hope in you.
He fills the earth with his love.

Prayer

2nd Reading: from the Book of Exodus 14:15 - 15:1

This song of triumph is one of the most famous hymns from the Bible. In all Catholic and Orthodox Churches it is sung during the Liturgy of the Easter Vigil after the reading from the Exodus 14 is done.

The Canticle of Moses



I will sing to the Lord: glo-rious his tri-umph, I will sing_ to the Lord.

I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph! Horse and rider he has
thrown into the sea. The Lord is my strength, my song, my
salvation.

This is my God, and I extol him! My father's God and I give him
praise.

**I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph! I will sing to the
Lord**

The Lord is a warrior! The Lord is his name! The chariots of

Pharaoh he hurled into the sea; the flower of his army is drowned in the sea!

The deeps hide them, they sank like a stone!

I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph! I will sing to the Lord

Your right hand, Lord, glorious in its power,

your right hand, Lord, has shattered the foe.

In the greatness of your glory you crushed the foe!

I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph! I will sing to the Lord

You will lead them and plant them on your holy mountain,

the place, O Lord, where you have made your home,

the sanctuary which your hands have made.

The Lord will reign for ever and ever!

The Lord will reign for ever.

I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph! I will sing to the Lord

Prayer

3rd Reading: from the Prophet Isaiah 55: 1-11

The first part 55: 1-5 is read, then the choir sings: 55: 6-11

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,

call to him while he is still near.

Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,

to our God who is rich in forgiving;

for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways;

- it is the Lord who speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as far above the earth

as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

Yes, as rain and snow come down from the heavens

and do not return without watering the earth,

giving it yield and growth, seed for sowing, bread for eating,

so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty,
without carrying out my will,
and succeeding in what it was sent to do.

Prayer

4th Reading: Ezechiel 36: 16-28

Psalm 42



Like the deer that yearns for run - ning streams, so my soul is thirst-ing for you.

Like the deer that yearns for running streams
So my soul is thirsting for you.

My soul is thirsting for God, the God of my life.
When can I enter, when can I enter and see the face of God?

Like the deer that yearns for running streams
So my soul is thirsting for you.

These things will I remember as I pour out my soul;
how I would lead the rejoicing crowd into the house of God.

Like the deer that yearns for running streams
So my soul is thirsting for you.

O send forth your light and your truth, let these be my guide;
Let them bring me to the holy mountain, to the place where you
dwell.

Like the deer that yearns for running streams
So my soul is thirsting for you.

And I will come to the altar of God, the God of my joy;
My Redeemer, I will thank you on the harp, O God, my God.

Like the deer that yearns for running streams
So my soul is thirsting for you.

Prayer



Ps 117 This day was made by the Lord, we rejoice and are glad.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end;
Let the sons of Israel say: his love has no end.

This day was made by the Lord, we rejoice and are glad.

The Lord's right hand has triumphed, his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds.

This day was made by the Lord, we rejoice and are glad.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner-stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord, we rejoice and are glad.

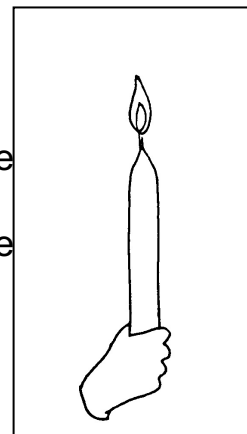
The Gospel according to Luke 24: 1-12

Homily

Invitation to prayer: we stand

Litany of Saints:

Lord, have mercy, have mercy. Lord, have mercy, have
Christ, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us
Lord, have mercy, have mercy. Lord, have mercy, have
Holy Mary, Mother of God: pray, pray for us
..... pray, pray for us



Lord, be merciful: **Lord, save your people**

.....

By your grace bless this font where your children will be reborn

Lord, hear our prayer

Jesus, Son of the living God, **Lord, hear our prayer**

Christ, hear us: **Christ, hear us**

Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

The Blessing of Water

We light our candles from the Easter candle for

The Blessing of the Water,

the renunciation of sin,

and the Profession of Faith

Renunciation of Sin: I do

Profession of Faith: I believe, I believe

As we are blessed with the Easter water we sing

Response

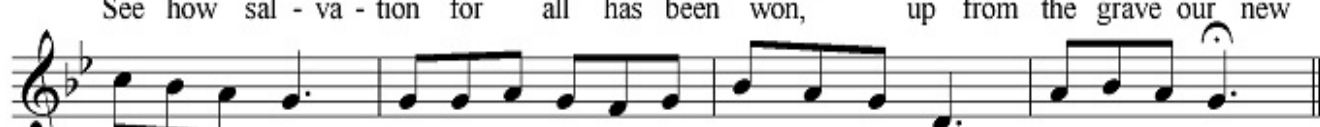


Al - le - lu - ia, — al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Vs 1, 2



Glo - ry to God who does won - drous things, let all the peo - ple God's
See how sal - va - tion for all has been won, up from the grave our new



prais-es now sing, all of cr - a - tion in splen-dour shall ring, al - le - lu - ia.
life has be - gun, life now per-fect-ed in Je - sus, the Son, Al - le - lu - ia.

Now in our presence the Lord will appear,
 shine in the faces of all of us here,
 Fill us with joy and cast out all fear.
 Alleluia **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The Intercessions

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Preparation of gifts

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a piano part with a treble and bass clef, and a vocal line. The piano part has a melodic line in the treble and a harmonic line in the bass. The vocal line has a melody with lyrics. The second system is similar, with a piano part and a vocal line. The lyrics are: "Sur - rex - it Christ - us, al - le - lu - ia." and "Can - ta - te Do - mi - no, al - le - lu - ia." The piano part has a melodic line in the treble and a harmonic line in the bass. The vocal line has a melody with lyrics. The tempo is marked "ostinato" and the mood is "Hum".

All you heavens, bless the Lord. Surrexit Christus, alleluia.
 Stars of the heavens, bless the Lord. Cantatae Domino, alleluia. RS

Sun and moon, bless the Lord. Surrexit Christus, alleluia.
 And you, night and day, bless the Lord. Cantate Domino, alleluia. RS

The Eucharistic Prayer

Jubilee Sanctus Jubilee memorial:

When we eat this bread and drink this cup
we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come,
we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come.

Doxology: Amen, amen. Amen, amen. Amen, amen.

Jubilee Agnus Dei

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of
the world. Blessed are those, Blessed are those,
Blessed are those called to the Supper of the Lamb.

The love I have for you, my Lord, is only a shadow of your love for me;
only a shadow of your love for me, your deep abiding love.

My own belief in you, my Lord, is only a shadow of your faith in me,
only a shadow of your faith in me, your deep and lasting faith.

My life is in your hands, my life is in your hands.
My love for you will grow, my God, your light in me will shine.

The dream I have today, my Lord, is only a shadow of your dreams for
me, only a shadow of all that will be if I but follow you.

The joy I feel today, my Lord, is only a shadow of your joys for me,
only a shadow of your joys for me, when we meet face to face.

Be still and know that I am God. (3)
I am the Lord that healeth thee. (3)
In thee, O Lord, I put my trust. (3)

Blessing

May the Lord bless us and keep us from all harm,
and may he lead us to eternal life.

Copyrights and Acknowledgements: Ps 32, 42, 117 : Words taken from The Psalms: A new translation © The Grail. music Canticle of Moses, Ps 117: © Kevin Mayhew Surrexit © Taize. Only a Shadow: Words © Carey Landrey Calamus; Graphics © Netta Ewing. All hymns are covered under Licence nos CCL 74396 and Calamus 0262.

Easter Egg Hunt tomorrow, Easter Sunday, after the 10.30 Mass

Social Events at St Leo's

Sunday, 20 April 2025
Sunday Mass at 10.30am
Saturday Vigil at 6.00pm

Sunday	Tea Rota 
20	Lesley and Eileen
27	Margaret, Cathy and Rebecca
May 4	Maria and Lawrence
11	Jacqui and Lorraine
18	Catherine and Senga
25	Mary and Paul
June 1	Thara and Rosemary
8	Aine and Sandra
15	Anne Marie, Pat and Rosemary

Pope Francis on Twitter

@ Pontifex 16 April 2025



Many fears can dwell within us and terrible injustices surround us, but a new world has already been born. God so loved the world that he gave us his Son, Jesus. He pours balm upon our wounds and wipes away our tears.

Foodbank

Any spare eggs will go to the foodbank

Thankyou



Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday, 20 April 2025



These pictures are from the 2023 egg hunt. We've got Julia organising, Gisela helping by pointing out eggs and Christopher pretending he's not there. I'm looking forward to Kirsty doing a great job this year.



EASTER SUNDAY



Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here;
come bow before him now with reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground,
Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.

Be still for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.
He burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light.
Be still ,for the glory of the Lord, is shining all around

Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place;
he comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace,
no work too hard for him; in faith receive from him.
Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

Penitential Rite

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Kyrie, eleison. Kyrie, eleison.
You came to call sinners. Christe, eleison. Christe, eleison.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us.
Kyrie, eleison. Kyrie, eleison.

Glory to God in the highest



We praise you, we bless you, we adore you,
we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
**Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to his people,
peace to people of good will.**

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
**Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to his people,
peace to people of good will.**

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

1st reading

Psalm 117 This day was made by the Lord, we rejoice and are glad.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end;
Let the sons of Israel say: his love has no end.

This day was made by the Lord, we rejoice and are glad.

The Lord's right hand has triumphed, his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds.

This day was made by the Lord, we rejoice and are glad.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner-stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord, we rejoice and are glad.

2nd reading

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed. Let us celebrate.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Homily

We light our candles from the Easter candle for the renunciation of sin and the Profession of Faith

Renunciation of Sin: I do

Profession of Faith: I believe, I believe

Prep of Gifts

You must love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul;
You must love the Lord your God with all your mind and strength,
And you must love your neighbour as you love yourself.
You must love the Lord your God with heart and soul
and mind and strength and your neighbour as yourself.

Sanctus Memorial Agnus Dei

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the Banquet of the Lamb.
Blessed are those called to the Banquet of the Lamb.

Communion Hymn

The love I have for you, my Lord, is only a shadow of your love for me;
only a shadow of your love for me, your deep abiding love.

My own belief in you, my Lord, is only a shadow of your faith in me,

only a shadow of your faith in me, your deep and lasting faith.

My life is in your hands, my life is in your hands.
My love for you will grow, my God, your light in me will shine.

The dream I have today, my Lord, is only a shadow of your dreams for me, only a shadow of all that will be if I but follow you.

The joy I feel today, my Lord, is only a shadow of your joys for me, only a shadow of your joys for me, when we meet face to face.

Alleluia, sing to Jesus, his the sceptre, his the throne;
alleluia, his the triumph, his the victory alone:
hark the songs of peaceful Sion thunder like a mighty flood:
Jesus, out of every nation, hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia, not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;
alleluia, he is near us, faith believes, nor questions how;
though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were
o'er, shall our hearts forget his promise, "I am with you evermore"?

after the Blessing:
In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit now and for ever.
Amen.

Copyrights and Acknowledgements: Ps 117 : Words taken from The Psalms: A new translation © The Grail. music © Kevin Mayhew Only a Shadow: Words © Carey Landrey Calamus; Graphics © Netta Ewing. All hymns are covered under Licence nos CCL 74396 and Calamus 0262.

Easter Egg Hunt today Easter Sunday, after the 10.30 Mass
Thanks – to everyone who cleaned and prepared the church, the candle holders, the Paschal Candle holder, the thurible,, the hall, the Easter cross and garden, the Easter Egg hunt, the liturgy, flowers, sacristy, servers, choir, cantors, organist, violinist, clarinetist and all the music for Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

A special thanks to those who were able to support the Lenten Ecumenical Morning Prayers, and the Ecumenical Stations of the Cross, as well as the social events of the season plus the Parish Penance Service, the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Good Friday Service and now the Easter Vigil and the Mass

Parish Offerings: Giftaided 2st offering: £227.00; ordinary offering £209.00; special offering for sick and retired priests £137.00.

RADIOALBA.ORG for the week of the April 20th, Easter week, 2019

radioalba.org christian is an ecumenical, internet-based radio which promotes prayer and news of good things happening among the churches and people of faith.

the Morning Halfhour is repeated from 07.00 every 30 minutes until 12.00 noon

7.00: Morning Prayer

7.15 **Morning Prayer** with the Young

Canon Bob Hill looks ahead to the experience of Thomas Margaret Chapman comments on the daily readings Mass service new 7c 457 24

Magazine: Fr Tom Magill speaks about Jesus' Journey to Jerusalem; Michael Rankin reads the Palm Sunday message from the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem; then the Catholic Medical Association on the Assisted Dying Bill; then a report about assaults on Catholic pilgrims in India by Hindu Nationalist groups. And Mary McGinty reflects on 'This is a season for everything!' We end with the Easter song 'This day was made by the Lord

lunchtime half-hour:

12.00 The Rev Chris Foxon leads us in our Service for Easter Week

12.15: Office of Readings includes passages from the book of Exodus 14 and from the Prophet Ezechiel 36

12.30: Chatterbox with the Rev Liz Adam

1.00: The Rev Chris Foxon leads us in our Service for Easter Week

01.30: Liz Adam with Chatterbox

Afternoon: Music from the Archive

Evening

8.00: Vespers

8.20: Magazine

8.50: Night Prayer

The evening Hour at 20.00 is repeated at 21.00 and 22.00

Social Events at St Leo's

Sunday, 20 April 2025
Sunday Mass at 10.30am
Saturday Vigil at 6.00pm

Sunday	Tea Rota 
20	Lesley and Eileen
27	Margaret, Cathy and Rebecca
May 4	Maria and Lawrence
11	Jacqui and Lorraine
18	Catherine and Senga
25	Mary and Paul
June 1	Thara and Rosemary
8	Aine and Sandra
15	Anne Marie, Pat and Rosemary

Pope Francis on Twitter

@ Pontifex 16 April 2025



Many fears can dwell within us and terrible injustices surround us, but a new world has already been born. God so loved the world that he gave us his Son, Jesus. He pours balm upon our wounds and wipes away our tears.

Foodbank

Any spare eggs will go to the foodbank

Thankyou



Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday, 20 April 2025



These pictures are from the 2023 egg hunt. We've got Julia organising, Gisela helping by pointing out eggs and Christopher pretending he's not there. I'm looking forward to Kirsty doing a great job this year.



