



EASTER DAY SUNDAY LUNCH SERVICE

Let us sit and watch Songs of Praise together on the ABC and then set the table for our Parish meal.



- **Let us all set our table for our Sunday lunch service**
- Sometimes we eat, in front of the TV either together or alone; we eat on the run; we eat out in restaurants or even in our car; but today we sit at a table that we have set for our Sunday lunch meal. It is our everyday altar of life-giving food.

As we celebrate Easter Sunday let us define the occasion by decorating our table with a variety of bright flowers or Easter eggs and/or a medium size stone (symbolising the stone that has been rolled away and new life,



- **Prayerful and intentional preparation for a meal**



Set your meal for this day. And give some thought to the presentation of your meal as a meditation on the importance of the time you are setting aside for worship. Make it pleasing to your eye.

If you are celebrating this meal without people physically present, please be aware that God Is With You. Also please be aware in your mind, you are celebration this Sunday meal with many other people in the parish at the same time on this same day.

- **opening prayer — consciously drawing together the dispersed Parish community around your table**

Be still and silent.

Visualise in your mind, that you are celebrating Easter Day and sharing your Sunday service meal at the same time as others in your parish Pray:



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

**Here, and throughout the world,
We adore you O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.
Amen**

**Bless this food, both physical and spiritual.
Bless all who gather at your table, both seen and unseen,
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen**



A reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 10 beginning at Verse 34

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ - he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ 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. ³⁹ 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; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ 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. ⁴² 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. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." [NRSV Acts 10:34-43]

Hear the word of the Lord, ***thanks be to God***

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

- ¹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
that his mercy endures for ever.
- ² Let Israel now proclaim:
that his mercy endures for ever.
- ¹⁴ The Lord is my strength and my song:
and has become my salvation.
- ¹⁵ The sounds of joy and deliverance:
are in the tents of the righteous.
- ¹⁶ The right hand of the Lord does mighty things:
the right hand of the Lord raises up.
- ¹⁷ I shall not die but live:
and proclaim the works of the Lord.
- ¹⁸ The Lord has disciplined me hard:
but he has not given me over to death.
- ¹⁹ Open me the gates of righteousness:
and I will enter and give thanks to the Lord.
- ²⁰ This is the gate of the Lord:
the righteous shall enter it.
- ²¹ I will praise you, for you answered me:
and have become my salvation.
- ²² The stone that the builders rejected:
has become the head of the corner.
- ²³ This is the Lord's doing:
and it is marvellous in our eyes.
- ²⁴ This is the day that the Lord has made:
let us rejoice and be glad in it.



A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians, *Chapter 3 beginning at Verse 1*

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. [NRSV Colossians 3:1-4]

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God.



The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, *Chapter 28 beginning at verse 1*

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

¹ After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me." [NRSV Matthew 28:1-10]

This is the Gospel of the Lord, *praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.*

- spend some time ***eating reflectively and responding to the passage***

Engage in some quiet conversation and sharing, responding to the Gospel passage. If there are children present some careful *open questions* (*what/who/ how/when/where/why*) may facilitate the conversation. If you are alone you might like to write down some key thoughts for further reflection.



- ***Spending some time in prayer***

Offer short one sentence prayers for example. for healing of the world; for those affected by coronavirus; for family; for members of the parish and wider community, for the life and ministry of the Church, for self, etc.

Please pray alongside those in our parish asking for prayer ; Ron & Ann ; Les ; Tristan; Kathy Mitchell; David ; Pat ; Izabelle ; Peta ; Mariette; Joanne, Barry; Peter G, Peter C; Samantha & Noah; Fiona; Brenton; Sue; Brenda, David & Lynn King; Pat; Brendon; Fr Percy & Betty, Bp David; Jill; Bill; David H; Petra, Miriam & family, Marjorie, John & Carole; Joyce; Diane; Jean; Mitchell and family; Kathy; Carolyn; Allison; Angela; Susie; Carol; Shirley; Lucy Ann; Lyn; Ted & Joyce ; Carol; Irene; Linda; Jenny P's mother; Tina; Wendy; Chris; Trevor; Liz ; Trish's sister Yvonne and Nicholas B.

Prayer of the Day

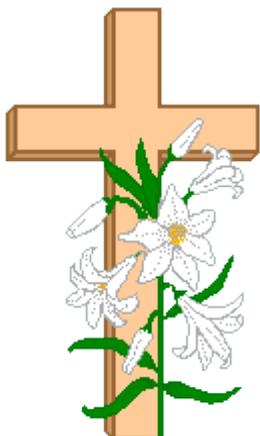
Glorious Lord of life,
by the mighty resurrection of your Son
you overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, who celebrate with joy
Christ's rising from the dead
may be raised from the death of sin
to the life of righteousness;
through him who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.



Amen.

Conclude the meal by saying together the following prayer and our Easter declaration

***May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be amongst us and remain with us always.
Amen.***



***Christ is Risen! Alleluia!
He is Risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

• intentional connection beyond your home

After the Table Service, make contact via phone, email, letter, Messenger, Skype, Zoom, etc with a person who is on your heart and mind at this time. It might be one of the people you invited to your meal, or a member of your family, or someone who doesn't have family, or a friend,

Let God guide you to the person or people with whom you connect. Contact the person. Start a conversation: 'I was thinking of you.....' Or What did you think of..... in songs of praise etc



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