
THE EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT

The entire celebration of the Easter Vigil must take place at night, so that it begins after nightfall and ends before daybreak on the Sunday. This Vigil is arranged in four parts: after a service of light and the Easter Proclamation (I), the Church meditates on all the wonderful things God has done for his people from the beginning; this is the Liturgy of the Word (II). As the day of resurrection approaches, new members of the Church are reborn in Baptism (III), and the whole Church is called to the table the Lord prepared for his people through his Death and Resurrection; this is the Liturgy of the Eucharist (IV).

FIRST PART: THE SOLEMN BEGINNING OF THE VIGIL OR LUCERNARIUM

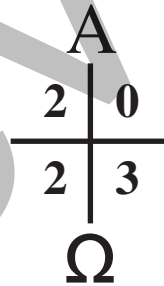
THE BLESSING OF THE FIRE AND PREPARATION OF THE CANDLE

A large fire is prepared in a suitable place. The people and the Priest assemble there with the other ministers (carrying the paschal candle). The Priest then greets the assembly in the usual manner and briefly instructs them about the vigil and blesses the fire.

Dear brethren (brothers and sisters),...Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

After the blessing of the new fire, the Priest cuts a cross into the candle with a stylus. Then he traces the Greek letter Alpha above the cross, the letter Omega below, and the numerals of the current year between the arms of the cross. While doing this he says:

1. Christ yesterday and today;
2. the Beginning and the End;
3. the Alpha;
4. and the Omega.
5. All time belongs to him;
6. and all the ages.
7. To him be glory and power;
8. through every age and for ever. Amen.



When the cross and other marks have been made, the Priest may insert five grains of incense in the candle. He does this in the form of a cross saying:

1. By his holy
2. and glorious wounds,
3. may Christ the Lord
4. guard us
5. and protect us. Amen.

The Priest lights the paschal candle from the new fire, saying:

May the light of Christ rising in glory
dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

PROCESSION

One of the ministers takes burning coals from the fire and places them in the thurible; the Priest then places incense into it.

At the door of the darkened church, the Deacon then takes the Easter candle, lifts it high, and sings:

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After this, the Priest lights his candle. When the procession reaches the middle of the church, the Deacon lifts the candle high and sings a second time:

The Light of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

All light their candles from the paschal candle and the procession continues. When the Deacon arrives before the altar, he faces the people and sings a third time:

The Light of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

After the paschal candle is placed in a large candle holder, the lights in the church are put on, except for the altar candles.

THE EASTER PROCLAMATION (EXSULTET)

The Easter Proclamation is proclaimed by the Deacon or, in his absence, by the Priest. If necessary, a lay cantor may sing the Proclamation. In this case, the words "Therefore, dearest friends" up to the end of the invitation are omitted, as is the greeting "The Lord be with you." All stand and hold lighted candles.

The Easter Proclamation may be sung either in the long or short form. (Include the bracketed text for the long form.)

Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven,
exult, let Angel ministers of God exult,
let the trumpet of salvation
sound aloud our mighty King's triumph!
Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her,
ablaze with light from her eternal King,
let all corners of the earth be glad,
knowing an end to gloom and darkness.
Rejoice, let Mother Church also rejoice,
arrayed with the lightning of his glory,
let this holy building shake with joy,
filled with the mighty voices of the peoples.

Deacon/Priest only:

[Therefore, dearest friends,
standing in the awesome glory of this holy light,
invoke with me, I ask you,
the mercy of God almighty,

DAILY MASS PROPERS

Parenthesized numbers refer to Lectionary sections. For Memorials, when the readings and antiphons of the day may be replaced by readings for the class of saint (martyr, holy men and women, etc.), suggested texts are given for the Responsorial Psalm.

OUR LADY ON SATURDAY

On designated Saturdays, the following texts may be used for an optional memorial in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Any readings from 707–712 may be chosen.

ENTRANCE (3) *cf. Judith 13:18–19*

Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary, by the Lord God Most High, above all women on the earth; for he has so exalted your name that your praise shall be undying on our lips.

RESP. *Psalm 113:1b–2, 3–4, 5–6, 7 (709.4)*

℟. **Blessed be the name of the Lord for ever.**

Or **℟.** **Alleluia.**

COMMUNION *cf. Luke 1:48*

All generations will call me blessed, for God has looked on his lowly handmaid.

NOVEMBER 25 — FRIDAY

(507) Reading I: *Revelation 20:1–4, 11–21:2*;
Gospel: *Luke 21:29–33*

ENTRANCE *cf. Psalm 85 (84):9*

The Lord speaks of peace to his people and his holy ones and to those who turn to him.

RESP. *Psalm 84:3, 4, 5–6a & 8a*

℟. **Here God lives among his people.**

COMMUNION *Psalm 117 (116):1, 2*

O praise the Lord, all you nations, for his merciful love towards us is great.

Or Matthew 28:20

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, says the Lord.

Or Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr (Optional)

(Suppl. 683C) Reading I: *Revelation 21:5–7*;
Gospel: *Matthew 10:28–33*

ENTRANCE

Behold, now she follows the Lamb who was crucified for us, powerful

in virginity, modesty her offering, a sacrifice on the altar of chastity.

Or

Blessed is the virgin who by denying herself and taking up her cross imitated the Lord, the spouse of virgins and prince of martyrs.

RESP. *Psalm 124:2–3, 4–5, 7cd–8*

℟. **Our soul has been rescued like a bird from the fowler's snare.**

COMMUNION *Revelation 7:17*

The Lamb who is at the center of the throne will lead them to the springs of the waters of life.

NOVEMBER 26 — SATURDAY

(508) Reading I: *Revelation 22:1–7*;
Gospel: *Luke 21:34–36*

ENTRANCE *cf. Psalm 85 (84):9*

The Lord speaks of peace to his people and his holy ones and to those who turn to him.

RESP. *Psalm 95:1–2, 3–5, 6–7ab*

℟. **Marana tha! Come, Lord Jesus!**

COMMUNION *Psalm 117 (116):1, 2*

O praise the Lord, all you nations, for his merciful love towards us is great.

Or Matthew 28:20

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, says the Lord.

Or Our Lady on Saturday (Optional):

NOVEMBER 28 — MONDAY

Advent Weekday

(175) Reading I: *Isaiah 4:2–6 (second choice)*;
Gospel: *Matthew 8:5–11*

ENTRANCE *cf. Jeremiah 31:10; Isaiah 35:4*

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations; declare it to the distant lands: Behold, our Savior will come; you need no longer fear.

RESP. *Psalm 122:1–2, 3–4b, 4cd–5, 6–7, 8–9*

℟. Let us go rejoicing to the house
of the Lord.

COMMUNION

cf. Psalm 106 (105):4–5; Isaiah 38:3

**Come, O Lord, visit us in peace, that
we may rejoice before you with a
blameless heart.**

NOVEMBER 29 — TUESDAY

Advent Weekday
(176) Reading I: *Isaiah 11:1–10*;
Gospel: *Luke 10:21–24*

ENTRANCE *cf. Zechariah 14:5, 7*

**Behold, the Lord will come, and all his
holy ones with him; and on that day
there will be a great light.**

RESP. *Psalm 72:1–2, 7–8, 12–13, 17*

℟. Justice shall flourish in his time,
and fullness of peace for ever.

COMMUNION *cf. 2 Timothy 4:8*

**The Just Judge will bestow a crown of
righteousness on those who eagerly
await his coming.**

NOVEMBER 30 — WEDNESDAY

Saint Andrew, Apostle (Feast)
(684) Reading I: *Romans 10:9–18*;
Gospel: *Matthew 4:18–22*

ENTRANCE *cf. Matthew 4:18–19*

**Beside the Sea of Galilee, the Lord saw
two brothers, Peter and Andrew, and
he said to them: Come after me and
I will make you fishers of men.**

RESP. *Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11*

℟. The judgments of the Lord are
true, and all of them are just.

Or **℟.** Your words, Lord, are Spirit
and life.

COMMUNION *cf. John 1:41–42*

**Andrew told his brother Simon: We
have found the Messiah, the Christ,
and he brought him to Jesus.**

DECEMBER 1 — THURSDAY

Advent Weekday
(178) Reading I: *Isaiah 26:1–6*;
Gospel: *Matthew 7:21, 24–27*

ENTRANCE *cf. Psalm 119 (118):151–152*

**You, O Lord, are close, and all your ways
are truth. From of old I have known of
your decrees, for you are eternal.**

RESP. *Psalm 118:1 & 8–9, 19–21, 25–27a*

℟. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord.

Or **℟.** Alleluia.

COMMUNION *Titus 2:12–13*

**Let us live justly and devoutly in this age,
as we await the blessed hope and the
coming of the glory of our great God.**

DECEMBER 2 — FRIDAY

Advent Weekday
(179) Reading I: *Isaiah 29:17–24*;
Gospel: *Matthew 9:27–31*

ENTRANCE

**Behold, the Lord will come descending
with splendor to visit his people with
peace, and he will bestow on them
eternal life.**

RESP. *Psalm 27:1, 4, 13–14*

℟. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

COMMUNION *cf. Philippians 3:20–21*

**We await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,
who will change our mortal bodies, to
conform with his glorified body.**

DECEMBER 3 — SATURDAY

Saint Francis Xavier, Priest (Memorial)
(180) Reading I: *Isaiah 30:19–21, 23–26*;
Gospel: *Matthew 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6–8*

ENTRANCE *Psalm 18 (17):50; 22 (21):23*

**I will praise you, Lord, among the
nations; I will tell of your name to my kin.**

RESP. *Psalm 147:1–2, 3–4, 5–6*

℟. Blessed are all who wait for the Lord.

COMMUNION *Matthew 10:27*

**What I say to you in the darkness speak
in the light, says the Lord, what you hear
whispered, proclaim on the housetops.**

Or (685) Reading I:
1 Corinthians 9:16–19, 22–23

RESP. *Psalm 117:1bc, 2*

℟. Go out to all the world and tell
the Good News.

Gospel: *Mark 16:15–20*

RITUAL, VOTIVE AND COMMON MASSES

The Roman Missal, Simple Gradual, and Lectionary offer several options for the propers. Lectionary sections for Readings, Responsorial Psalms, Gospel Acclamations and Gospels are listed after readings. The parenthesized numbers in the responsorial refer to the particular responsorial in that Lectionary section.

THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

ENTRANCE *Psalm 33 (32):11, 19*

The designs of his Heart are from age to age, to rescue their souls from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

READINGS nos. 995–1000

RESP. (6) *Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 6–7, 8 & 10*

℟. The Lord's kindness is everlasting to those who fear him.

COMMUNION *cf. John 7:37–38*

Thus says the Lord: Let whoever is thirsty come to me and drink. Streams of living water will flow from within the one who believes in me.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

ENTRANCE *Romans 5:5; cf. 8:11*

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling within us.

READINGS nos. 62–63 or 764–768

RESP.

(4) *Psalm 104:1ab & 24, 27–28, 30–31, 33–34*

℟. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

COMMUNION *cf. Psalm 68 (67):29–30*

Confirm, O God, what you have brought about in us, from your holy temple, which is in Jerusalem.

FOR THE SICK

ENTRANCE *Psalm 6:3–4*

Have mercy on me, Lord, for I languish; Lord, heal me; my bones are trembling, and my soul is greatly shaken.

READINGS nos. 933–937

RESP. (2) *Psalm 102:2–3, 24–25, 19–21*

℟. O Lord, hear my prayer, and let my cry come to you.

COMMUNION *Colossians 1:24*

In my flesh I am completing what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ on behalf of his body, which is the Church.

FOR GIVING THANKS TO GOD FOR THE GIFT OF HUMAN LIFE

In the Dioceses of the United States

ENTRANCE *cf. Psalm 143 (142):11*

For the sake of your name, O Lord, give me life.

READINGS nos. 943–947

RESP. (1) *1 Chronicles 29:10bc, 11, 12*

℟. We praise your glorious name, O mighty God.

COMMUNION *cf. Psalm 36 (35):10*

With you, O Lord, is the fountain of life, and in your light, we see light.

FOR THE CONFERRAL OF BAPTISM

ENTRANCE *cf. Ephesians 4:24*

Put on the new man, created in the image of God in righteousness and holiness of truth (E.T. alleluia).

READINGS nos. 756–760

RESP. (2) *Psalm 27:1bcde, 4, 8b–9abc, 13–14*

℟. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

COMMUNION *cf. 1 John 3:1*

See what love the Father has bestowed on us, that we may be called and may truly be the children of God (E.T. alleluia).

FOR VOCATIONS TO HOLY ORDERS

ENTRANCE *Matthew 9:38*

Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest, says Jesus to his disciples.

READINGS nos. 848–851 or 857–861

RESP. (2) *Psalm 27:1, 4, 5, 8b–9ab, 9cd & 11*

℟. I long to see your face, O Lord.

COMMUNION *1 John 3:16*

By this we came to know the love of God: that Christ laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

PRAYERS

ACT OF FAITH

O my God, I firmly believe that you are One God in Three Divine Persons, Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit; I believe that your Divine Son became man, and died for our sins, and that he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths which the Holy Catholic Church teaches, because you have revealed them, Who can neither deceive nor be deceived.

ACT OF LOVE

O my God, I love you above all things, with my whole heart and soul, because you are all-good and worthy of all love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of you. I forgive all who have injured me and ask pardon of all whom I have injured.

THE MEMORARE

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you I come; before you I stand sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate! Despise not my petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

ANIMA CHRISTI

Soul of Christ, sanctify me; Body of Christ, save me; Blood of Christ, inebriate me; Water from the side of Christ, wash me; Passion of Christ, strengthen me; O good Jesus, hear me; Within your wounds hide me; Separated from you, let me never be; From the evil one protect me; At the hour of my death, call me; And close to you bid me; That with your saints, I may be, praising you forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

INTO YOUR HANDS

Father, I abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will. Whatever you may do, I thank you: I am ready for all, I accept all. Let only your will be done in me, and in all your creatures — I wish no more than this, O Lord. Into your hands I commend my soul; I offer it to you with all the love of my heart, for I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself, to surrender myself into your hands without reserve, and with boundless confidence, for you are my Father. Charles de Foucauld (1858–1916)

PRAYER BEFORE CONFESSION

Lord our God, you are patient with sinners and accept our desire to make amends. I acknowledge my sins and I am resolved to change my life. Help me to celebrate this sacrament of your mercy so that I may reform my life and receive from you the gift of everlasting joy. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

TRUST IN GOD

May nothing disturb you, nothing frighten you. All things pass; God does not leave. Patient endurance attains all things. Whoever has God lacks nothing; God alone is enough.

St. Teresa of Avila (1515–1582)



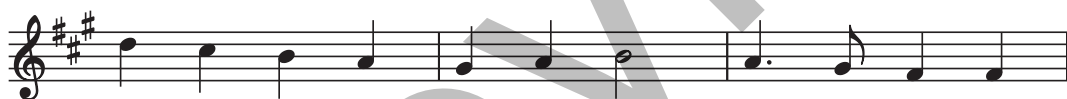
1. Christ, the Lord, is ris'n to - day; Chris-tians, haste your
2. Christ, the Vic - tim un - de - filed, God and sin - ners
3. Say, O won-d'ring Ma - ry, say What you saw a -
4. Christ, who once for sin - ners bled, Now the first - born



1. vows to pay; Make your joy and prais - es known At the
2. re - con-ciled; When in strange and awe - some strife Met to -
3. long the way. "I be - held two an - gels bright, Emp - ty
4. from the dead, Throned in end - less might and pow'r, Lives and



1. Pas - chal Vic - tim's throne; For the sheep the Lamb has bled,
2. geth - er death and life; Chris-tians, on this hap - py day
3. tomb and wrap-pings white; I be - held the glo - ry bright
4. reigns for - ev - er - more. Hail, e - ter - nal Hope on high!



1. Sin - less in the sin - ner's stead; Christ, the Lord, is
2. Haste with joy your vows to pay; Christ, the Lord, is
3. Of the ris - en Lord of light; Christ, my hope, is
4. Hail, our King of Vic - to - ry! Hail, our Prince of



1. ris'n on high; Now he lives, no more to die!
2. ris'n on high; Now he lives, no more to die!
3. ris'n a - gain; Now he lives, and lives to reign!"
4. Life a - dored! Help and save us, gra - cious Lord!

Text: 77 77 D; *Victimae paschali laudes*; ascr. to Wipo of Burgundy, ca. 1000–1050; tr. by Jane E. Leeson, 1808–1881, alt.
 Music: Würth's *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, 1859.



1. Be joy - ful, Ma - ry, heav'n - ly queen, *Gau - de, Ma - ri - a*: Your
2. The Son you bore by heav - en's grace, *Gau - de, Ma - ri - a*: Did
3. The Lord has ris - en from the dead, *Gau - de, Ma - ri - a*: He



1. Son who died was liv - ing seen, Al - le - lu - ia, lae - ta - re, O Ma - ri - a.
2. all our guilt and sin ef - face, Al - le - lu - ia, lae - ta - re, O Ma - ri - a.
3. rose with might as he had said, Al - le - lu - ia, lae - ta - re, O Ma - ri - a.

Text: 85 84 7; *Regina Caeli, jubila*; Latin, 17th cent.; tr. anon. in *Psallite*, 1901, alt.
 Music: Johann Leisentritt's *Catholicum Hymnologium*, 1584.

ALLELUIA! HE IS RISEN

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Acc #905

Bob Hurd



- Verses
1. Night has turned in - to morn - ing, tears of grief have
 2. Now the stone once re - ject - ed has be - come the
 3. Love un - furls its ban - ner, bid - ding all to
 4. Ris - ing up from the wa - ter, we are born a -
 5. Hearts a - blaze with your Spir - it, may we live the



1. turned to joy. Death has lost its do - min - ion,
2. cor - ner - stone. We be - hold it with won - der
3. join the feast with the poor and the low - ly
4. new in Christ. Let us be his com - pas - sion,
5. ris - en life. Let us serve one an - oth - er.



1. now our life is hid - den with Christ in God.
2. and re - joice to see what our God has done.
3. who will sit and sup with the Prince of Peace.
4. wash - ing feet and shar - ing the bread of life.
5. Make us sac - ra - ments of your love, O Christ.



Al - le - lu - ia! He is ris - en! Sign of



God's un - fail - ing love. Al - le - lu - ia!

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Refrain

Re - su - ci - tó, re - su - ci - tó, re - su - ci -
A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu -

1, 2 2nd time: Final
to Verses

tó, a - le - lu - ya.
ya, re - su - ci - tó. tó. A - le - lu - ya.

Verses

1. La ___ muer - te ¿dón - de es - tá la
2. Gra - cias se - an da - das al
3. A - le - grí - a, a - le - grí - a her -
4. Si con Él mo - ri - mos, y con Él vi -
1. And ___ death now, van - ished is the
2. The ___ king - dom, praise to God, the
3. Our ___ glad - ness, bless - ful in our
4. With ___ him then, die and live with

1. muer - te? ¿Dón - de es - tá mi muer - te?
2. Pa - dre que nos pa - só a su rei - no
3. ma - nos, que si hoy nos que - re - mos
4. vi - mos, y con Él can - ta - mos.
1. fear now, ban - ished are my tears now,
2. king - dom! Raised up to the king - dom,
3. glad - ness, this will be our glad - ness,
4. him then, rise and sing our hymn then,

to Refrain

1. ¿Dón - de su vic - to - ria? _____
2. don - de se vi - ve de a - mor. _____
3. y es que re - su - ci - tó. _____
4. y ¡A - le - lu - ya! _____
1. death has passed a - way. _____
2. we shall live in love. _____
3. that he is a - live. _____
4. sing al - le - lu - ia. _____

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WE'VE COME THIS FAR BY FAITH

Albert A. Goodson

*Refrain

We've come this far by faith, lean-ing on the
 Lord; trust-ing in his ho - ly word, he's nev - er
 failed me yet. Oh,
 can't turn a-round, we've come this far by faith.

Verses

1. Just re - mem - ber the good things
 2. Don't be dis - cour-aged when trou - ble's

1. God has done, things that seemed im - pos - si -
 2. in your life; he'll bear your bur -

1. ble; oh, praise him for the vic - t'ries he has won.
 2. dens and move all mis - er - y and strife.

to Refrain

*Refrain may be repeated as desired.

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RESTLESS IS THE HEART

Bernadette Farrell

*Refrain

Rest-less is the heart un-til it comes to rest in you. All the
 earth, all the earth shall re-mem-ber and re-turn to our God.

*Verses available in accompaniment books. Text based on Psalm 90:1-2, 4-6, 12, 14.
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