

# EASTER VIGIL

## THE CANDLE IS LIT

**Priest:** May the light of Christ, rising in glory,  
dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

**The EXSULTET** (To be played from the sound console)

### Liturgy of the Word

#### Celebrant:

Dear friends in Christ,  
we have begun our solemn vigil.  
Let us now listen attentively to the word of God,  
recalling how he saved his people throughout history  
and, in the fullness of time,  
sent his own Son to be our redeemer.  
Through this Easter celebration,  
may God bring to perfection  
the saving work he has begun in us.

#### **First Reading**    **Genesis 1:1-2:2**    (*1<sup>st</sup> in Missal*)

A reading from the book of Genesis

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was a formless void, there was darkness over the deep, and God's spirit hovered over the water.

God said, "Let there be light", and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and God divided light from darkness. God called light "day", and darkness he called "night". Evening came and morning came: the first day.

God said, "let there be a vault in the waters to divide the waters in two." And so it was. God made the vault, and it divided the waters above the vault from the waters under the vault. God called the vault "heaven". Evening came and morning came: the second day.

God said, "Let the waters under heaven come together into a single mass, and let dry land appear." And so it was. God called the dry land "earth" and the mass of water "seas", and God saw that it was good.

God said, "Let the earth produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants, and fruit trees bearing fruit with their seed inside, on the earth." And so it was. The earth produced vegetation: plants bearing seed in their several kinds, and trees bearing fruit with their seed inside in their several kinds. And God saw that it was good. Evening came and morning came; the third day.

God said, "Let there be lights in the vault of heaven to divide day from night, and let them indicate festivals, days and years. Let them be lights in the vault of heaven to shine on the earth." And so it was. God made the two great lights: the greater light to govern the day, the smaller light to govern the night, and the stars. God set them in the vault of heaven to shine on the earth, to govern the day and the night and to divide light from darkness. God saw that it was good. Evening came and morning came: the fourth day.

God said, "Let the waters teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth within the vault of heaven." And so it was. God created great sea-serpents and every kind of living creature with which the waters teem, and every kind of winged creature. God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying "Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the waters of the seas; and let the birds multiply upon the earth." Evening came and morning came: the fifth day.

God said, "Let the earth produce every kind of living creature: cattle, reptiles, and every kind of wild beast." And so it was. God made every kind of wild beast, every kind of cattle, and every kind of land reptile. God saw that it was good.

God said, "Let us make man in our own image, in the likeness of ourselves, and let them be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven, the cattle, all the wild beasts and all the reptiles that crawl upon the earth."

God created man in the image of himself,  
in the image of God he created him,  
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, saying to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and conquer it. Be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven and all living animals on the earth." God said, "See, I give you all the seed-bearing plants that are upon the whole earth, and all the trees with seed-bearing fruit: this shall be your food. To all wild beasts, all birds of heaven and all living reptiles on the earth I give all the foliage of plants for food." And so it was. God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good. Evening came and morning came: the sixth day.

Thus heaven and earth were completed with all their array. On the seventh day God completed the work he had been doing. He rested on the seventh day after all the work he had been doing.

The word of the Lord.

### **First Psalm - Psalm 103**

**Response:** Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!  
Lord God, how great you are,  
clothed in majesty and glory,  
wrapped in light as in a robe!

**Response:** Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

2. You founded the earth on its base,  
to stand firm from age to age.  
You wrapped it with the ocean like a cloak:  
the waters stood higher than the mountains.

**Response:** Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

3. You make springs gush forth in the valleys:  
they flow in between the hills.  
On their banks dwell the birds of heaven;  
from the branches they sing their song.

**Response:** Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth

4. From your dwelling you water the hills;  
earth drinks its fill of your gift.  
You make the grass grow for the cattle  
and the plants to serve man's needs.

**Response:** Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

5. How many are your works, O Lord!  
In wisdom you have made them all.  
The earth is full of your riches.  
Bless the Lord, my soul!

**Response:** Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

## **Prayer 1**

Let us pray.

Almighty ever-living God,  
who are wonderful in the ordering of all your works,  
may those you have redeemed understand  
that there exists nothing more marvelous  
than the world's creation in the beginning  
except that, at the end of the ages,  
Christ our Passover has been sacrificed.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **R.** Amen.

**Second Reading: Genesis 22:1-18** *(2<sup>nd</sup> Reading in the Missal)*

A reading from the book of Genesis

God put Abraham to the test, "Abraham, Abraham," he called. "Here I am," he replied. "Take your son," God said "your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you."

Rising early next morning Abraham saddled his ass and took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. He chopped wood for

the burnt offering and started on his journey to the place God had pointed out to him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. Then Abraham said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go over there, we will worship and come back to you."

Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering, loaded it on Isaac, and carried in his own hands the fire and the knife. Then the two of them set out together. Isaac spoke to his father Abraham. "Father," he said. "Yes, my son," he replied. "Look," he said, "here are the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" Abraham answered, "My son, God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering." Then the two of them went on together.

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven.

"Abraham, Abraham," he said. "I am here," he replied. "Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son." Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in the place of his son.

Abraham called this place "The Lord provides", and hence the saying today: On the mountain the Lord provides.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. "I swear by my own self - it is the Lord who speaks - because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.

The word of the Lord.

## Psalm 15

**Response:** Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.

1. O Lord it is you who are my portion and cup;  
it is you yourself who are my prize.  
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:  
Since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

**Response:** Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.

2. And my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
even my body shall rest in safety.  
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,  
nor let your beloved know decay.

**Response:** Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.

3. You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence,  
at your right hand happiness forever.

## Prayer 2

Let us pray.

O God, supreme Father of the faithful,  
who increase the children of your promise  
by pouring out the grace of adoption  
throughout the whole world  
and who through the Paschal Mystery  
make your servant Abraham father of nations,  
as once you swore,  
grant, we pray,  
that your peoples may enter worthily  
into the grace to which you call them.  
Through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

## Third Reading **Exodus 14:15-15:1** *(3<sup>rd</sup> in Missal)*

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry for me so? Tell the sons of Israel to march on. For yourself, raise your staff and stretch

out your hand over the sea and part it for the sons of Israel to walk through the sea on dry ground. I for my part will make the heart of the Egyptians so stubborn that they will follow them. So shall I win myself glory at the expense of Pharaoh, of all his army, the Egyptians will learn that I am the Lord.”

Then the angel of the Lord, who marched at the front of the army of Israel, changed station and moved to their rear. The pillar of cloud changed station from the front to the rear of them, and remained there. It came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. The cloud was dark, and the night passed without the armies drawing any closer the whole night long. Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove back the sea with a strong easterly wind all night, and he made dry land of the sea. The waters parted and the sons of Israel went on dry ground right into the sea, walls of water to right and left of them. The Egyptians gave chase: after them they went, right into the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. In the morning watch, the Lord looked down on the army of the Egyptians from the pillar of fire and of cloud, and threw the army into confusion. He so clogged their chariot wheels that they could scarcely make headway. “Let us flee from the Israelites”, the Egyptians cried “the Lord is fighting for them against the Egyptians!” “Stretch out your hand over the sea”, the Lord said to Moses “that the waters may flow back on the Egyptians and their chariots and their horsemen.” Moses stretched out his hand over the sea and, as day broke, the sea returned to its bed. The fleeing Egyptians marched right into it, and the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the middle of the sea. The returning waters overwhelmed the chariots and the horsemen of Pharaoh's whole army, which had followed the Israelites into the sea; not a single one of them was left. But the sons of Israel had marched through the sea on dry ground, walls of water to right and left of them. That day, the Lord rescued Israel from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. Israel witnessed the great act that the Lord had performed against the Egyptians, and the people venerated the Lord; they put their faith in the Lord and in Moses his servant.

It was then that Moses and the sons of Israel sang this song in honour of the Lord.

**Psalm** Exodus 15; 1-6, 17-18

**Response:** I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph!  
(CHOIR)

1. 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.

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

2. 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.

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

3. Your right hand, Lord, glorious in its power,  
your right hand, Lord, has shattered the enemy.  
In the greatness of your glory you crushed the foe.

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

4. You will lead them and plant them on your mountain  
the place, O Lord, where you have made your home,  
the sanctuary, Lord, which your hands have made.  
The Lord will reign for ever and ever.

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

### **Prayer 3**

Let us pray.

O God, whose ancient wonders  
remain undimmed in splendour even in our day,  
for what you once bestowed on a single people,  
freeing them from Pharaoh's persecution  
by the power of your right hand  
now you bring about as the salvation of the nations  
through the waters of rebirth,

grant, we pray, that the whole world  
may become children of Abraham  
and inherit the dignity of Israel's birthright.  
Through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

**Isaiah 54 / 55 / Baruch** - an interweaving of these prophetic  
readings [Baruch 3:9-13; Isaiah 54:5bc,7-10; Isaiah 55:1-3b;  
Baruch 3:14, 36; 4:1-3; Isaiah 55:7]

**Reader One:**

Thus says the Lord:

Oh come to the water all you who are thirsty;  
though you have no money, come!

Buy corn without money and eat,  
and at no cost, wine and milk.

Why spend your money on what is not bread,  
your wages on what fails to satisfy?

Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat  
And rich food to enjoy.

Pay attention, come to me;  
listen, and your soul will live.

**Reader Two:**

Listen Israel to the commands that give life;  
hear and learn what knowledge means!

Why, Israel,

are you in the country of your enemies,  
growing older and older in an alien land,  
sharing defilement with the dead,  
reckoned with those who go to Sheol?

**Reader One:**

Because you have forsaken the fountain of wisdom.

Had you walked in the way of God,  
you would have lived in peace for ever.

Learn where knowledge is,  
where strength, where understanding,  
and so learn where length of days is,

where life, where there is light of the eyes,  
and where peace.

But the One who knows all knows her,  
he has grasped her with his own intellect. . .

It is he who is our God,  
No other can compare with him.

He has grasped the whole way to knowledge,  
and confided it to his servant Jacob  
and to Israel, his well-beloved.

This is the book of the commandments of God,  
the law that stands for ever,  
those who desert her die.

Turn back Jacob, seize her;  
in her radiance make your way to light:  
do not yield your glory to another  
your privilege to a people not your own.

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.

### **Reader Two:**

Thus says the Lord:

Your Redeemer will be the Holy One of Israel,  
he is called the God of the whole earth.

I did forsake you for a brief moment,  
but with great love I will take you back.

In excess of anger for a moment  
I hid my face from you.

But with everlasting love I have taken pity on you,  
says the Lord, your Redeemer.

I am now as I was in the days of Noah:

when I swore that Noah's waters should never flood the world  
again.

So now I swear concerning my anger with you  
and the threats I made against you.

For the mountains may depart,  
the hills be shaken,  
but my love for you will never leave you,  
and my covenant of peace with you will never be shaken,  
says the Lord who takes pity on you.

The word of the Lord.

### **Fourth Psalm – Hymn 692 We shall draw water joyfully**

**Response:** We shall draw water joyfully, singing joyfully, singing joyfully; We shall draw water joyfully from the well springs of salvation.

1. Truly God is our salvation,  
We trust, we shall not fear.  
For the Lord is our strength, the Lord is our song;  
He became our Saviour.

**Response:** We shall draw water joyfully, singing joyfully, singing joyfully; We shall draw water joyfully from the well springs of salvation.

2. Give thanks, O give thanks to the Lord;  
Give praise to his holy name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to all the nations;  
Proclaim his greatness.

**Response:** We shall draw water joyfully, singing joyfully, singing joyfully; We shall draw water joyfully from the well springs of salvation.

3. Sing a psalm, sing a psalm to the Lord  
For he has done glorious deeds.  
Make known his works to all the earth;  
People of Zion, sing for joy; for great in your midst,  
Great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

**Response:** We shall draw water joyfully, singing joyfully, singing joyfully; We shall draw water joyfully from the well springs of salvation.

### **Prayer 4**

Let us pray

Almighty ever-living God,  
surpass, for the honour of your name,  
what you pledged to the Patriarchs by reason of their faith,

and through sacred adoption increase the children of your promise, so that what the Saints of old never doubted would come to pass your Church may now see in great part fulfilled. Through Christ our Lord. **R.** Amen.

## **Gloria**

### **The Collect**

Let us pray.

O God, who make this most sacred night radiant with the glory of the Lord's Resurrection, stir up in your Church a spirit of adoption, so that, renewed in body and mind, we may render you undivided service. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **Romans 6: 3-11**

A reading from the letter to the Romans

You have been taught that when we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

If in union with Christ, we have imitated his death, we shall also imitate him in his resurrection. We must realise that our former selves have been crucified with him to destroy this sinful body and to free us from the slavery of sin. When a man dies, of course, he has finished with sin.

But we believe that having died with Christ, we shall return to life with him. Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now

is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

**Response:** Thanks be to God.

**Proclamation of the Alleluia** (To be played from the sound console)

**Psalm 117**

**R/** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. Give thanks to the Lord he is good,  
the love of the Lord knows no ending  
Sons of Israel, say: His love has no end. **R/**
2. The right hand of God raised me up.  
The hand of the Lord has triumphed.  
I shall never die, I shall live  
telling his deeds. **R/**
3. The stone which the builders rejected  
becomes the corner stone chosen.  
Praise the work of God  
For this marvel in our eyes. **R/**

**THE GOSPEL IS THEN PROCLAIMED**

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**Response:** And with your spirit.

**GOSPEL Year A Matthew 28:1-10**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

***He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you into Galilee***

After the sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre. And all at once there was a violent earthquake, for the angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His face was like lightning, his robe white as snow. The guards were so shaken, so frightened of him,

that they were like dead men. But the angel spoke; and he said to the women, 'There is no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him." Now I have told you.' Filled with awe and great joy the women came quickly away from the tomb and ran to tell the disciples.

And there, coming to meet them, was Jesus. 'Greetings' he said. And the women came up to him and, falling down before him, clasped his feet. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; they will see me there.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **Alleluia proclaimed after the Gospel**

### **HOMILY – Celebrant**

#### **Main celebrant:**

Dearly beloved,  
with one heart and one soul,  
let us by our prayers  
come to the aid of these our brothers and sisters  
in their blessed hope,  
so that, as they approach the font of rebirth,  
the almighty Father may bestow on them  
all his merciful help.

### **LITANY OF THE SAINTS**

Lord, have mercy  
Christ, have mercy  
Lord, have mercy  
Holy Mary, Mother of God  
St. Michael and the Holy Angels of God  
St. John the Baptist and St Joseph  
St. Peter and St. Paul  
St. Andrew and St John  
St. Mary Magdalen and St Stephen

Lord, have mercy  
Christ, have mercy  
Lord, have mercy  
pray for us  
pray for us

St. Ignatius and St Lawrence	pray for us
St. Perpetua and St. Felicity	pray for us
St. Agnes and St. Gregory	pray for us
St Augustine and St Athanasius	pray for us
St. Basil, St Martin and St Benedict	pray for us
St. Francis and St. Dominic	pray for us
St. Francis Xavier and St John Vianney	pray for us
St Catherine and St Teresa	pray for us
All holy men and women	pray for us
Lord, be merciful	Lord, deliver us we pray
From all evil	Lord, deliver us we pray
From every sin	Lord, deliver us we pray
From everlasting death	Lord, deliver us we pray
By your incarnation	Lord, deliver us we pray
By your death and resurrection	Lord, deliver us we pray
By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit	Lord, deliver us we pray
Be merciful to us sinners	Lord, we ask you hear our
prayer	
Make this font holy by your grace	Lord, we ask you hear our
prayer	
for the new birth of your children	
Jesus, Son of the living God	Lord, we ask you hear our
prayer	
Christ, hear us	Christ hear us
Christ, graciously hear us.	Christ, graciously hear us.

## **RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES**

Dear friends in Christ:

Through the Easter mystery  
we have been buried with Christ in baptism,  
so that we might rise with him to a new life.  
Now that we have completed our Lenten observance,  
let us renew our promises we made in baptism  
when we rejected Satan and his works  
and promised to serve God faithfully  
in his holy catholic Church.

**The Celebrant asks:**

Do you reject Satan?	I DO
And all his works?	I DO
And all his empty promises?	I DO

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth?

I DO

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our  
Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was  
crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the  
dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father? I DO

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy  
Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the  
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting?

I DO

God, the all-powerful Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, has given  
us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and forgiven all our  
sins. May he also keep us faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ for  
ever and ever. Amen.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

## **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

Vigil Mass 2019