

# *Easter Season Prayer*

*Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of God.*

## ***Opening Prayer***

*(Easter Proclamation)*

**Leader: Let us pray together**

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!  
Exult, all creation around God's throne!  
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!

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

Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory!  
The risen Savior shines upon you!  
Let this place resound with joy,  
echoing the mighty song of all God's people!

## ***God's Word***

*(Mark 16: 1-7)*

Very early on Sunday morning, at sunrise, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome went to the tomb of Jesus to anoint his body with spices. On the way they said to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" Then they looked up and saw that the stone had already been rolled back. So they entered the tomb, where they saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a white robe—and they were alarmed. "Don't be alarmed," he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is not here—he is raised! Look, here is the place where he was placed. Now go and give this message to his disciples, including Peter: He is going to Galilee ahead of you; there you will see him, just as he told you."

**Response** *(Sung three times)*

And I will raise you up!  
And I will raise you up!  
And I will raise you up  
On the last day.

**De La Salle's Words**

*(Meditation for Sundays and Feasts, 29.1)*

[The feast of Easter] is a day of joy for the entire Church; that is why we so frequently and so solemnly sing the words of the Royal Prophet: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it! Indeed the resurrection of Jesus Christ is at once very glorious for him and highly advantageous for all the faithful.

It is glorious for Jesus Christ because by it he overcame death. This led St.Paul to affirm that Jesus Christ was raised up for the glory of his Father and that once risen he dies no more, because death will no longer have power over him.

It is advantageous for us because it is an assurance of our own resurrection. Certain it is, adds the apostle, that just as all died in Adam, so too all will rise again in Jesus Christ. According to this same apostle, it was on this happy day that death was destroyed once and for all. Rejoice with the whole Church over so great a favor, and thank Jesus Christ Our Lord very humbly for it.

**Prayers of Intercession**

**Reader:** Lord Jesus, you spoke to your disciples and said: "Follow me." Inspire us to follow you with joy and conviction and be your loving presence to other people.

**All:** **Bless us, Lord, and those you have entrusted to our care.**

**Reader:** Lord Jesus, you put your arms around little children and blessed them. Bless all young people today, particularly those who are suffering in any way.

**All:** **Bless us, Lord, and those you have entrusted to our care.**

**Reader:** Lord Jesus, you touched many sick people and healed them of all kinds of diseases. Touch us and heal us of our anger and unhappiness. May we use our hands to comfort rather than hurt others.

**All:** **Bless us, Lord, and those you have entrusted to our care.**

**Reader:** Lord Jesus, your face shone like the sun when you were transfigured with Moses and Elijah. Let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

**All:** **Bless us, Lord, and those you have entrusted to our care.**

**Reader:** Lord Jesus, you were born with a body like ours. You lived, suffered, died, and rose to new life. Teach us to respect ourselves and others as the temples of your Holy Spirit, made in your image and likeness.

**All:** **Bless us, Lord, and those you have entrusted to our care.**

**Reader:** Lord Jesus, you loved all people and made no exceptions or distinctions. Give us loving and forgiving hearts, sensitive to the needs of people we meet.

**All:** **Bless us, Lord, and those you have entrusted to our care.**

**Reader:** Lord Jesus, you raised Lazarus from the dead after he had been three days in the grave. Raise us to new life with you. Be with those who grieve the death of someone they love.

**All:** **Bless us, Lord, and those you have entrusted to our care.**

### ***Closing Prayer***

God, our Creator, by raising Christ you conquered the power of death and opened for us the way to eternal life. Let us celebrate today by raising us up and renewing our lives by the Spirit that is within us. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

***St. John Baptist de La Salle...Pray for us!  
Live, Jesus, in our hearts...Forever!***