

APRIL 5, 2015
EASTER SUNDAY

taking⁺ faith home

Jesus has risen from the dead to bring new life to the world.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday	Mark 16:1-8	Christ is risen!
Monday	Acts 4:1-12	The stone rejected
Tuesday	John 11:1-7, 17-26	The resurrection and the life
Wednesday	Romans 6:1-11	Christ's resurrection and us
Thursday	1 Corinthians 15:12-22	The resurrection of the dead
Friday	1 Corinthians 15:35-49	The resurrected body
Saturday	Psalms 136:1-9, 23-26	His love endures forever
Sunday	John 20:19-31	Jesus appears to the disciples

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But the angel said, "Don't be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! Look, this is where they laid his body." Mark 16:6 (NLT)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Amen. (Psalm 118:24)

Mealtime Prayer:

Risen Lord Jesus, come to us this day. Bless our food, share our table, and accept our thanks. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the good news of Jesus' resurrection fill you with love, joy, peace, and hope. Amen.



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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a time when you felt very surprised.
- How do you think the women who went to Jesus' tomb felt when they heard that he had risen (Mark 16:1-4)? How do you think you would you have responded if you were with them that morning?
- How is your life different because of the resurrection of Jesus?

DEVOTIONS

In place of an Easter egg hunt, arrange to hide river stones or pebbles (symbolizing the stone in front of Jesus' tomb) in your home, garden or yard, each marked with the letters CIR, standing for "Christ is Risen!" When the stones are found, exchange them for Easter eggs or other treats. Read Mark 16:1-8, noting the rolling away of the stone, the announcement of Jesus' resurrection and the surprise of the women at their amazing discovery.

SERVICE

Plan to bring Easter resurrection cheer to someone who is working on Easter Sunday in a hospital, nursing home, police station, or fire station. Prepare an Easter basket to deliver to them during the day as a gift from your household.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

As an Easter Sunday household activity, bake some Easter Resurrection rolls. When they are baked they are empty inside, just like Jesus' tomb.

1. Gather the following ingredients: 3/4 cup warm water, 1 large egg, 3 cups flour, 1 teaspoon salt, 3 tablespoons sugar, 6 tablespoons butter, 3 tablespoons powdered milk, 1 1/2 teaspoon yeast, 1/2 cup melted butter, 1 cup sugar, 1 tablespoon cinnamon, 24 marshmallows.
2. Combine the first eight ingredients. Let the mixture rise until it is double the original size.
3. Divide the mixture into 24 balls and then flatten them into circle shapes.
4. Mix the sugar and cinnamon together. Dip the rolls into the melted butter and then into the sugar mixture.
5. Wrap each circle shape of dough around a marshmallow, covering completely. Then dip once more into the melted butter, and then again into sugar.
6. Place the rolls in a large greased pan and allow to rise until double (approximately 30 minutes). Then bake at 375°F (190°C) for about 15 minutes or until done.
7. Enjoy your rolls, giving thanks to God for the resurrection of Jesus!



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org