

# Easter Vigil in the holy Night

## the paschal triduum

The Paschal Triduum is the three-day celebration for which Lent prepares us. From Holy Thursday evening to Easter Sunday, our Lenten mood of repentance gives way to our eager anticipation of the Resurrection of the Lord, the culmination of the entire liturgical year. These days are not the memorial of three consecutive events in Jesus' life on earth, but our participation in the reality of Christ's death and resurrection still active and at work in our lives today.

Lent ends quietly on Thursday afternoon as the Church enters the Triduum ("three days"). On Thursday night the Church begins a time of prayer and fasting, a time of keeping watch, that lasts into the great Vigil between Saturday and Sunday. The Church emphasizes that the fasting of Good Friday and, if possible, Holy Saturday is integral to the keeping of these days and the preparation for the sacraments of initiation celebrated at the Easter Vigil.

## Easter Vigil in the holy Night

The long preparation of the elect, the lenten disciplines and fast of the faithful, the vigiling and fasting and prayer that have gone on since Thursday night—all culminate in the Easter Vigil liturgy. On this night the Church gathers to spend much time listening to scriptures, praying psalms, acclaiming the death and resurrection of the Lord. Only then are the elect called forward and prayed over, challenged to renounce evil and affirm their faith in God, led to the font and baptized with the blessed water. The newly baptized are then anointed with chrism and the entire assembly joins in universal prayer. The great Vigil reaches its high point in the eucharistic prayer of praise and thanksgiving and finally in the sharing of the eucharist itself.

## **LUCENARIUM** — **SERVICE OF LIGHT**

#### BLESSING OF THE FIRE STAND

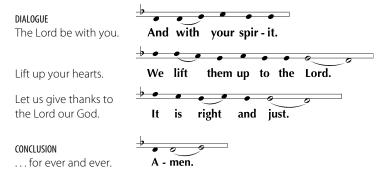
#### PREPARATION AND LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

#### **PROCESSION**



#### EASTER PROCLAMATION: THE EXSULTET REMAIN STANDING

In this ancient chant, the Church gives thanks and praise to God for all that is recalled this night: Adam's fall, the deliverance from Egypt, the passover of Christ, the wedding of earth and heaven, our reconciliation.



## LITURGY OF THE WORD

At the Vigil, the Liturgy of the Word is an extended time of readings, silence, and the singing of psalms and canticles. On this night when the faithful know the death and resurrection of the Lord in baptism and eucharist, the Church needs first to hear these scripture readings, which are the foundation of our life together: the creation story, Abraham and Isaac, the dividing of the sea, the poetry of Isaiah and Baruch and Ezekiel, the proclamation of Paul to the Romans, and the gospel account of Jesus' resurrection.

FIRST READING SIT

The creation. GENESIS 1:1—2:2

Heritage Missal p. 152 -or- Gather Hymnal No. 954

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.



PRAYER STAND

#### SECOND READING SIT

**The testing of Abraham.** GENESIS 22:1-18 Heritage Missal p. **154** –or– Gather Hymnal No. **955** 

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



PRAYER STAND

### THIRD READING SIT

**The passage through the Red Sea.** EXODUS 14:15—15:1 Heritage Missal p. **156**—or— Gather Hymnal No. **956** 

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



PRAYER STAND

## FOURTH READING SIT

**The enduring love and mercy of the Lord.** ISAIAH 54:5-14 Heritage Missal p. **157** –or– Gather Hymnal No. **957** 

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



#### PRAYER STAND

#### FIFTH READING SIT

**The mystery of water and the word.** ISAIAH 55:1-11 Heritage Missal p. **158** -or- Gather Hymnal No. **958** 

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



#### PRAYER STAND

#### SIXTH READING SIT

**The fountain of wisdom.** BARUCH 3:9-15, 32—4:4 Heritage Missal p. **160** –or – Gather Hymnal No. **959** 

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



#### PRAYER STAND

### SEVENTH READING SIT

**A new heart and a new spirit.** EZEKIEL 36:16-17a, 18-28 Heritage Missal p. **161** –or– Gather Hymnal No. **960** 

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

## **PSALM RESPONSE** *Sung by the Cathedral Choir.*

PSALM 42:1

Sicut cervus

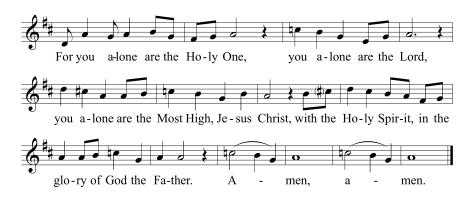
Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum: ita desiderat anima me ad te, Deus.

As the deer longs for flowing streams, so longs my soul for you, O God.

#### PRAYER STAND





**COLLECT** *The Bishop prays the opening prayer, and all respond:* **Amen.** 

# **EPISTLE** SIT **Christ, having risen from the dead, will never die again.** ROMANS 6:3-11 Heritage Missal p. **163** -or- Gather Hymnal No. **961**

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.





GOSPEL

**The women proclaim the resurrection.** LUKE 24:1-12 Heritage Missal p. **164** –or– Gather Hymnal No. **961-C** 

Before the gospel:

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading:

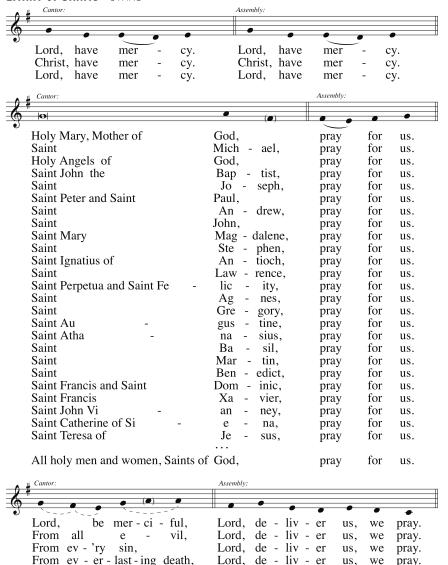
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.** 

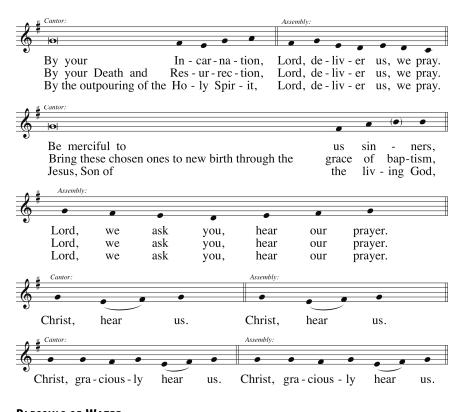
HOMILY SIT

#### **BAPTISMAL LITURGY**

After the homily the elect are called forward, and the congregation chants the litany of saints, invoking the holy women and men of all centuries.

#### LITANY OF SAINTS STAND





#### BLESSING OF WATER

 ${\it The Bishop gives thanks and praise to God over the waters of baptism.}$ 

The following acclamation is sung by **all** — repeat each line after cantor.

<u></u>

Richard Proulx



#### RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

Each candidate for baptism is asked to reject sin and the ways of evil, and to testify to faith in Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

#### THE BAPTISMS

One by one the candidates are led to the font and water is poured over them as the Bishop says: "N., I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Each is then clothed in a baptismal garment.

#### RECEPTION INTO FULL COMMUNION

Those who have been previously baptized are now called forward to profess their faith and to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church.

#### CONFIRMATION

The Bishop anoints each of the newly baptized with chrism saying: "N., be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit."

#### RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES STAND

All of the faithful repeat and affirm the rejection of sin made at baptism and profess faith in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The congregation is then sprinkled with the baptismal water.

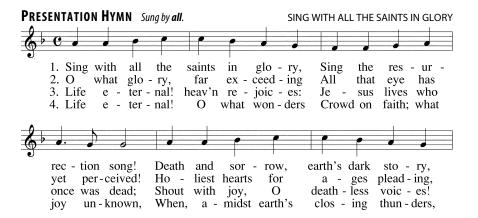


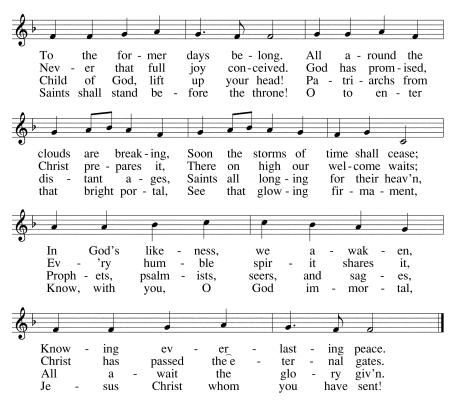
PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

RESPONSE: Lord, hear our prayer.

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

#### PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS SIT





Text: 1 Corinthians 15:20; William J. Irons, 1812-1883, alt.

Tune: HYMN TO JOY, 8 7 8 7 D; arranged from Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, by Edward Hodges, 1796–1867

## **PRESENTATION ANTHEM** Sung by the Cathedral Choir.

This Joyful Eastertide

Dutch folk tune, arr. Charles Wood

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow! My love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.

Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison, Our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen!

My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber: Till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number.

Death's flood hath lost his chill, since Jesus crossed the river: Lovers of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.

#### PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS STAND

... that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

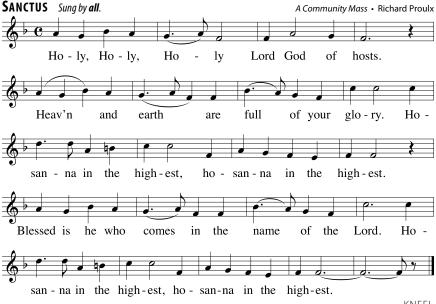
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy church.

#### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

RESPONSE: Amen.





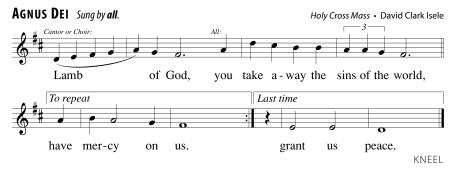


**KNEEL** 





#### RITE OF PEACE



#### COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb... Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

## **COMMUNION ANTIPHON** Sung by the Cathedral Chant Schola.

Christ, our Paschal Lamb
Chant, mode VI

Christ, our Paschal Lamb, has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore, let us keep the feast by sharing the unleavened bread of uprightness and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

## **COMMUNION ANTHEM** Sung by the Cathedral Choir.

Christ Our Passover
Healey Willan

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Alleluia. Therefore let us keep the feast
with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
Alleluia. O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious,
and his mercy endureth forever. Alleluia.



#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION STAND



## RESPONSE: **Amen.**

## **CONCLUDING RITE**

#### BLESSING

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, † and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

### **DISMISSAL** The dismissal is sung with "alleluia," and all respond.





Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

Tune: LLANFAIR, 7 7 7 7 with alleluias; Robert Williams, 1781–1821

#### ORGAN POSTLUDE

Symphony No. 5: Toccata Charles–Marie Widor

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