

Easter Vigil Liturgy
April 8, 2023

First Part: The Solemn Beginning, or Lucernarium

The Blessing of the Fire and Candle

Dear brothers and sisters, on this most sacred night, in which our Lord Jesus Christ passed over from death to life, the Church calls upon her sons and daughters, scattered throughout the world, to come together to watch and pray. If we keep the memorial of the Lord's paschal solemnity in this way, listening to his word and celebrating his mysteries, then we shall have the sure hope of sharing his triumph over death and living with him in God.

(blessing of Fire)

Let us pray,

O God, who through your Son bestowed upon the faithful the fire of your glory, sanctify this new fire, we pray, and grant that, by these paschal celebrations, we may be so inflamed with heavenly desires, that with minds made pure, we may attain festivities of unending splendor. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

(Lighting of Paschal Candle)

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

This is the light of Christ, **Thanks be to God**
Here is the light of Christ. **Thanks be to God**
Live in the light of Christ. **He is our Light.**

Exultet (G 356)

Refrain

The light of Christ surrounds us. The love of Christ enfolds us,
The power of Christ protects us, the presence of Christ watches over us.

All the earth is ablaze with the glory of God, for the Light has come to burn away the darkness.

Refrain

Let us fill every space with the sound of our joy, praising Christ, who is living now among us.

Refrain

As this candle shines out through the darkness of night, may the love of Christ burn ever in our hearts. **Refrain**

O happy fault, O necessary sin, which gained for us so great a redeemer. **Refrain**

This most blessed of nights, chosen by our God, to see Christ rising from the dead. **Refrain**

Second Part: The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Genesis 1:1 - 2:2

Narrator: This night is the beginning. And so we remember our origins and tell the story of God's creation.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS:

In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless wasteland, and darkness covered the abyss, while a mighty wind swept over the waters. Then God said,

God Male Voice: "Let there be light."

Narrator: And there was light. God saw how good the light was. God then separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day" and the darkness "night". Thus evening came and morning followed - the first day. Then God said,

God Female Voice: "Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters to separate one body of water from the other."

Narrator: And so it happened: God made the dome, and it separated the water above the dome from the water below it. God called the dome "the sky." Evening came, and morning followed - the 2nd day. Then God said,

God Male Voice: "Let the water under the sky be gathered into a single basin, so that the dry land may appear."

Narrator: And so it happened. The water under the sky was gathered into its basin, and the dry land appeared. God called the dry land "the earth" and the basin of the water God called "the sea". God saw how good it was. Then God said,

God Female Voice: "Let the earth bring forth vegetation: every kind of plant that bears seed and every kind of fruit tree with its seed in it."

Narrator: And so it happened: the earth brought forth every kind of plant that bears seed and every kind of fruit tree on earth that bears fruit with its seed in it. God saw how good it was. Evening came, and morning followed - the third day. Then God said,

God Male Voice: "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky, to separate day from night. Let them mark the fixed times, the days and the years, and serve as luminaries in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth."

Narrator: And so it happened: God made the two great lights, the greater one to govern the day, and the lesser one to govern the night; and God made the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw how good it was. Evening came and morning followed - the fourth day. Then God said,

God Female Voice: "Let the water teem with an abundance of living creatures, and on the earth let birds fly beneath the dome of the sky."

Narrator: And so it happened: God created the great sea monsters and all kinds of swimming creatures with which the water teems, and all kinds of winged birds. God saw how good it was, and God blessed them, saying,

God Male Voice: "Be fertile, multiply, and fill the water of the seas; and let the birds multiply on the earth."

Narrator: Evening came, and morning followed- the fifth day. Then God said,

God Female Voice: "Let the earth bring forth all kinds of living creatures: cattle, creeping things, and wild animals of all kinds."

Narrator: And so it happened: God made all kinds of wild animals, all kinds of cattle, and all kinds of creeping things of the earth. God saw how good it was. Then God said,

God Male and Female Voice: "Let us make man and woman in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and the cattle, and over all the wild animals and all creatures that crawl on the ground."

Narrator: So God created humankind in the divine image; in the image of God humankind was created; male and female God created them. God blessed them, saying:

God Female Voice: "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and care for it. Take care of the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that move on the earth."

Narrator: God also said,

God Male Voice: "See, I give you every seed-bearing plant all over the earth and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food; and to all the animals of the land, all the birds of the air, and all the living creatures that crawl on the ground, I give all the green plants for food."

Narrator: And so it happened: God looked at everything God had made and found it very good. Evening came, morning followed - the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth in all their array were completed. Since on the seventh day God was finished with this work, God rested on the seventh day from all the work that had been undertaken.

The Word of Our God.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm after First Reading

Refrain

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

Bless the name of God, my soul, O God, how great you are.
How many are your works, O God: your wisdom made them all. **Refrain**

Creatures all depend on you, you feed us through the year.
You give us food; we take it up; you satisfy our need. **Refrain**

Prayer

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 forever and ever. **Amen**

Or

O God, who wonderfully created human nature and still more wonderfully redeemed it, grant us, we pray, to set our minds against the enticements of sin, that we may merit to attain eternal joys. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Second Reading: Genesis 22:1-18

Narrator: In the culture from which the Genesis author comes, it was not uncommon to offer human sacrifice to the various ancient cults. So for Abraham to take God's brutal request seriously is quite believable.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS:

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him,

God Male Voice: Abraham!

Abraham: Ready, Lord!

God Male Voice: Take your son, Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you.

Narrator: Early the next morning, Abraham saddled his donkey, took with him his son Isaac, and one of his servants as well, and with the wood that he had cut for the holocaust, set out for the place of which God had told him.

Narrator: On the third day, Abraham got sight of the place from afar. Then he said to his servant,

Abraham: Both of you stay here with the donkey, while the boy and I go on over yonder. We will worship and then come back to you.

Servant: Yes, master.

Narrator: Thereupon Abraham took the wood for the holocaust and laid it on his son Isaac's

shoulders, while he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two walked on together, Isaac spoke to his father Abraham.

Isaac: Father

Abraham: Yes, son.

Isaac: Here are the fire and the wood, but where is the sheep for the holocaust?

Abraham: Son, God will provide the sheep for the holocaust.

Narrator: Then the two continued going forward. When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Next, he tied up his son Isaac, and put him on top of the wood on the altar. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son.

God Female Voice: Abraham, Abraham!

Abraham: Yes, Lord.

God Female Voice: Do not lay your hand on the boy, do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son.

Narrator: As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.

Narrator: Abraham named the site "Yahweh-yireh". Henceforth, people now say, "On the mountain the Lord will see." The Lord called to Abraham from heaven and said:

God Male Voice: I swear by myself, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly.

God Female Voice: I will make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore. Your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing. All this because you obeyed my command.

The Word of Our God.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm after Second Reading

Refrain

Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope; you are my hope, O God.

I say to God, "you are my only God, I have no good except in you." **Refrain**

I find in God always my cup of joy; and God will keep my life secure. **Refrain**

Prayer

O God, supreme Parent 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. **Amen**

Reading 3: Exodus 14:15 - 15:1

A reading from the Book of Exodus

God said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward, And you, lift up your staff and, and with hand outstretched over the sea, split the sea in two, that the Israelites may pass through it on dry land. But I will make the Egyptians so obstinate that they will go in after them. Then I will receive glory through Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots and charioteers. The Egyptians shall know that I am the Most High when I receive glory through Pharaoh and his chariots and his charioteers."

The angel of God, who had been leading Israel's camp, now moved and went around behind them. The column of cloud also, leaving the front, took up its place behind them, so that it came between the camp of the Egyptians and that of Israel. But the cloud now became dark, and thus the night passed without the rival camps coming any closer together all night long.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the Most High swept the sea with a strong east wind throughout the night and so turned it into dry land. When the water was thus divided, the Israelites marched into the midst of the sea on dry land, with the water like a wall to their right and to their left.

The Egyptians followed in pursuit: all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and charioteers went after them right into the midst of the sea. In the night watch just before dawn the Most High cast through the column of the fiery cloud upon the Egyptian force a glance that threw it into a panic, clogging their chariot wheels so that they could hardly drive. With that the Egyptians sounded the retreat before Israel, because the Most High God was fighting for them against the Egyptians.

Then God told Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may flow back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and their charioteers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea flowed back to its normal depth.

The Egyptians were fleeing head on toward the sea, when God hurled them into its midst. As the waters flowed back, it covered the chariots and the charioteers of Pharaoh's whole army which had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not a single one of them escaped. But the Israelites had marched on dry ground through the midst of the sea, with the water like a wall to their right and to their left.

Thus God saved Israel on that day from the power of the Egyptians.

When Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the seashore and beheld the great power that God

had shown against the Egyptians, they feared God and believed in the Most High and in Moses, God's servant.

Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to God:

"I will sing to the Most High, who is gloriously triumphant;
horse and chariot God has cast into the sea."

The word of God.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Refrain

**Praise God with drums and dancing, Sing to God a joyful song.
Come, dance the dawning story, Tell what God the Lord has done.**

Come to the Lord, Count on His kindness
Cry out to the Lord with Joy, Sing the care of our God. **Refrain**

Lead through the sea, Tested like silver
Brought safely through wind and woe, God has guided our way. **Refrain**

Prayer

Let us pray.

O God, whose ancient wonders remain undimmed in splendor 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 us 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. **Amen.**

Or

O God, who by the light of the New Testament have unlocked the meaning of wonders worked in former times, so that the Red Sea prefigures the sacred font and the nation delivered from slavery foreshadows the Christian people, grant, we pray, that all nations, obtaining the privilege of Israel by merit of faith, may be reborn by partaking of your Spirit. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading 4: Isaiah 54:5-14

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The One who has become your spouse is your Maker,
whose name is the God of hosts;
your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel,
called God of all the earth.

God calls you back,
like one forsaken and grieved in spirit,
like a spouse married in youth and then cast off,
says your God.

For a brief moment I abandoned you,
but with great tenderness I will take you back.

In an outburst of wrath, for a moment
I hid my face from you;
but with enduring love I have compassion for you,
says the Most High God, your Redeemer.

This is for me like the days of Noah,
when I swore that the waters of Noah
should never again deluge the earth;
so I have sworn not to be angry with you
or to rebuke you.

Though the mountains leave their place
and the hills be shaken,
my love shall never leave you
nor my covenant of peace be shaken,
says the Most High, who has mercy on you.

O afflicted one, storm-battered and unconsoled,
I lay your pavements in carnelians
and your foundations in sapphires.

I will make your battlements of rubies,
your gates of carbuncles,
and all your walls of precious stones.

All your children shall be taught by the Most High,
and great shall be the peace of your children.

In justice shall you be established,
far from the fear of oppression,
where destruction cannot come near you.

The Word of God.
Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm after Reading four

Refrain

I will praise you, Lord, all my days for you have rescued me.

Prayer

Let us pray:

Almighty ever-living God, surpass, for the honor 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. **Amen**

Reading 5: Isaiah 55:1-11

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Most High:

All you who are thirsty,
come to the water!

You who have no money,
come, receive grain and eat;
come, without paying and without cost,
drink wine and milk!

Why spend your money for what is not bread,
your wages for what fails to satisfy?
Heed me, and you shall eat well,
you shall delight in rich fare.
Come to me heedfully,
listen, that you may have life.
I will renew with you the everlasting covenant,
the benefits assured to David.

As I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander of nations,
so shall you summon a nation you knew not,
and nations that knew you not shall run to you,
because of the Most High, your God, the Holy One of Israel,
who has glorified you.

Seek me, your God, while I may be found,
call upon me while I am near.
Let those who have done evil forsake their ways,
and the wicked their thoughts;
let them turn to me for mercy;
for I am generous in forgiving.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways.

As high as the heavens are above the earth,
so high are my ways above your ways

and my thoughts above your thoughts.

For just as from the heavens the rain and the snow come down
and do not return there till they have watered the earth,
making it fertile and fruitful,
giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats,
so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth;
my word shall not return to me void,
but shall do my will,
achieving the end for which I sent it.

The word of God
Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm after Reading five

Refrain

You will draw water from the well of the kingdom of God.
You will draw water from the well of the kingdom of God.

God alone is my rock; how then should I be afraid? **Refrain**

God alone is my strength; who when can stand before me? **Refrain**

God alone is my peace; God shatters steel and nations. **Refrain**

Prayer

Let us pray:

Almighty ever-living God, sole hope of the world, who by the preaching of your Prophets unveiled the mysteries of this present age, graciously increase the longing of your people, for only at the prompting of your grace do the faithful progress in any kind of virtue. Through Christ our Lord.

Reading 6: Baruch 3:9-15, 32 – 4:4

A reading from the Prophet Baruch

Hear, O Israel, the commandments of life;
Listen, and know prudence!
How is it, Israel, that you are in the land of your foes,
grown old in a foreign land,
defiled with the dead,
accounted with those destined for the netherworld?

You have forsaken the fountain of wisdom!
Had you walked in the way of God,
you would have dwelt in enduring peace.

Learn where prudence is,
where strength,
where understanding;
that you may know also
where are length of days, and life,
where light for the eyes, and peace.

Who has found the place of wisdom?
who has entered into her treasures?

The One who knows all things knows her,
Has probed her by understanding --
the One who established the earth for all time
and filled it with four-footed beasts;
the One who dismisses the light, and it departs,
calls it, and it obeys trembling;
before whom the stars at their posts shine and rejoice;
when called, they answer, "Here we are!"
shining with joy for their Maker.

Such is our God;
no other is to be compared to Most Holy One;
God traced out the whole way of understanding,
and has given her to Jacob, who serves God,
and to Israel, the beloved child.

Since then she has appeared on earth and moved among you.
Wisdom is the book of the precepts of God,
and the law that endures forever;
all who cling to her will live,
but those will die who forsake her.

Turn, O people, and receive her;
walk by her light toward splendor.
Give not your glory to another,
your privileges to an alien people.
Blessed are we, O Israel,
for what pleases God is known to us!

The word of God
Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm after Reading 6

Refrain

Your words are spirit and life, O Lord:
Richer than gold, stronger than death.
Your words are spirit and life, O Lord; life everlasting.

God's law is perfect, refreshing the soul, reviving the weary spirit.
God's rule can be trusted; bringing us wisdom, bringing God's wisdom to birth. **Refrain**

God's precepts keep us; their purpose is right. They gladden the hearts of people
God's command is so clear, it brings us new vision, bringing God's light to our eyes. **Refrain**

Prayer

Let us Pray.
O God, who constantly increase your Church by your call to the nations, graciously grant to those you wash clean in the waters of Baptism the assurance of your unfailing protection.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading 7: Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28

Narrator: A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel:

Thus the word of God came to me:

God Male Voice: Son of humanity, when the house of Israel lived in their land, they defiled it by their conduct and deeds. Therefore I poured out my fury upon them (because of the blood which they poured out on the ground, and because they defiled it with idols.)

God Female Voice: I scattered them among the nations, dispersing them over foreign lands; according to their conduct and deeds I judged them. But when they came among the nations (wherever they came) they served to profane my holy name, because it was said of them: "These are the people of the land."

God Female Voice: So I have relented because of my holy name which the house of Israel profaned among the nations where they came. Therefore say to the house of Israeli: Thus says the Lord God:

God Male Voice: Not for your sakes do I act, house of Israel, but for the sake of my holy name, which you profaned among the nations to which you came. I will prove the holiness of my great name, profaned among the nations, in whose midst you have profaned it.

God Female Voice: Thus the nations shall know that I am the Lord, when in their sight I prove my holiness through you.

God Male Voice: For I will take you away from among the nations, gather you from all the foreign lands, and bring you back to your own land.

God Male Voice: I will sprinkle clean water upon you to cleanse you from all your impurities, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

God Female Voice: I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you, taking from your bodies your stony hearts and giving you natural hearts.

God Male Voice 5: I will put my spirit within you and make you live by my statutes, careful to observe my decrees.

Both God Voices: You shall live in the land I gave your ancestors. You shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Narrator: The Word of Our God

Responsorial Psalm after reading 7

Refrain

Like a deer that yearns for running streams,
So my soul is yearning for God.

Prayer

Let us pray.

O God of unchanging power and eternal light, look with favor on the wondrous mystery of the whole Church and serenely accomplish the work of human salvation, which you planned from all eternity; may the whole world know and see that what was cast down is raised up, what had become old is made new, and all things are restored to integrity through Christ, just as by him they came into being. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Or

O God, who by the pages of both Testaments instruct and prepare us to celebrate the Paschal Mystery, grant that we may comprehend your mercy, so that the gifts we receive from you this night may confirm our hope of the gifts to come. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria

Refrain (2x in beginning)

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you; we bless you; we adore you; we glorify you,
We give you thanks for your great glory.

Lord God, heavenly One, O God, almighty Father. **Refrain**

Lord, Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.

You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

You take away the sin of the world, receive our prayer,
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. **Refrain**

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,

With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. **Refrain**

***Epistle* Romans 6:3-11**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the people of Rome

Sisters and brothers,

are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death,

so that just as Christ was raised from the dead

by the glory of God,

we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with Christ in a death like his,

we shall also be united with him in the resurrection.

We know that our old self was crucified with him,

so that our sinfulness might be done away with,

that we might no longer be in slavery to sin.

For a dead person has been absolved from sin.

If then we have died with Christ,

we believe that we shall also live with Christ.

We know that Christ raised from the dead, dies no more;

death no longer has power over him.

As to his death, he died to sin once and for all;

as to his life, Christ lives for God.

Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as being dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus.

The word of God

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Mass of Glory

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Give the Glory and the Honor to the Lord.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Give the Glory and the Honor to the Lord
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Give the Glory and the Honor to the Lord.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Give the Glory and the Honor to the Lord

Christ the Lord is among us, bringing hope to all who follow.
Let the earth resound with praise and the light of our love.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Give the Glory and the Honor to the Lord.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Give the Glory and the Honor to the Lord

Gospel **Luke24:1-12**

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At daybreak on the first day of the week the women who had come from Galilee with Jesus took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb.

They found the stone rolled away from the tomb; but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

While they were puzzling over this, behold, two men in dazzling garments appeared to them.

They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground.

They said to them, "Why do you seek the living one among the dead?
He is not here, but he has been raised. Remember what he said to you while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners and be crucified, and rise on the third day."

And they remembered his words.

Then they returned from the tomb and announced all these things to the eleven and to all the others.

The women were Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James; the others who accompanied them also told this to the apostles, but their story seemed like nonsense and they did not believe them.

But Peter got up and ran to the tomb, bent down, and saw the burial cloths alone; then he went home amazed at what had happened.

The Good News of Salvation
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Third Part - Baptismal Liturgy

Litany of Saints (G 570)

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have Mercy.

Mary and Joseph, **Pray for us**
Michael and all angels, **Pray for us**
Anna, Joachim, Elizabeth, **Pray for us**
Elijah, Moses, John the Baptist, **Pray for us**
Isaac, Sarah Abraham, **Pray for us**
Jacob, Joseph Samuel, **Pray for us**
Ruth, David and Solomon, **Pray for us**
Isaiah, Jeremiah, **Pray for us**

All you holy men and women pray for us.

Peter, Paul, Andrew, **Pray for us**
James, John and all apostles, **Pray for us**
Mary Magdalene, Veronica, **Pray for us**
Barnabas, Mathias, **Pray for us**
Stephen, Phillip and Cornelius, **Pray for us**
Prisca and Aquila, **Pray for us**
Timothy and Titus, **Pray for us**
Linus, Cletus and Clement, **Pray for us**

All you holy men and women pray for us.

The Blessing of Water

Dear brothers and sisters, let us humbly beseech the Lord our God to bless this water he has created, which will be sprinkled upon us as a memorial of our Baptism. May he graciously renew us, that we may remain faithful to the Spirit whom we have received.

Lord our God, in your mercy be present to your people who keep vigil on this most sacred night and, for us who recall the wondrous work of our creation and the still greater work of our redemption, graciously bless this water. For you created water to make the fields fruitful and to refresh and cleanse our bodies. You also made water the instrument of your mercy; for through

water you freed your people from slavery and quenched their thirst in the desert; through water the Prophets proclaimed the new covenant you were to enter upon with the human race; and last of all, through water, which Christ made holy in the Jordan, you have renewed our corrupted nature in the bath of regeneration. Therefore, may this water be for us a memorial of the Baptism we have received and grant that we may share in the gladness of our brothers and sisters, who at Easter have received their Baptism. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Addressing the congregation

Fr. Jack: I invite you to respond “*We Do*” as a sign that we are committed, as a community, to renewing our promise to live our baptismal responsibilities, and to support in one another, the call of the Holy Spirit.

Speakers are addressing the assembly as a whole

Do you recognize God the Holy One – as author of the cosmos – who recreates us in the Divine image, and is Sovereign over all of creation, and all time?

I do.

Do you accept Jesus as the Word Made Flesh – who, One-in-Being with the God-of-All – redeemed us from our bondage to sin and death – and is the model for how we can live our lives?

I do.

As a follower of Jesus, do you pledge to pray daily, to meditate on the Word of God, to build community, to live a life marked by hope, and to celebrate the Sacraments with faith, especially the Eucharist?

I do.

Do you acknowledge your need for compassion and forgiveness – and your vocation to be compassionate and forgiving toward those who might offend you?

I do.

Do you commit yourself to a gospel spirit of poverty and detachment – to resist the spirit of consumerism and materialism – to live a life of generosity – and to exercise a preferential option for the poor?

I do.

Do you dedicate yourself to seek justice in your personal interaction with others, and in the world at large – to help others in their needs, and in their aspirations – to work to end oppression – and to reject evil?

I do.

Do you believe the Holy Spirit is at work in our midst, that the church is universal, that we are

graced with a cloud of witnesses to the love of God, that sin is forgiven, that God's love for all of creation is un-ending, and that life is ever-lasting?

I do.

Fr. Jack: This is our faith. This is the faith of our Church. We are proud to profess this faith in Christ Jesus. And let the Church say:

Amen

***Sprinkling Rite* Song of Fire and Water (G132)**

Refrain

If we have died to ourselves in Jesus, then we shall arise to new life in him,
Alleluia, alleluia!

We are fire and water, we are symbol and sign of grace,
We are the mystery, we are the image of God's own face. **Refrain**

In the water we seek him, in the wellspring of all that lives,
All who are thirsty, come and be filled with the life he gives. **Refrain**

Universal Intercessions

Response: Christ, our Light, hear our prayer.
(Christ, our Light, hear our prayer.)

For the Church: that we may be instruments of Christ's light for all who live in darkness, of hope for all who know pain and suffering, and of love for all who experience rejection, let us pray...

For all the newly baptized: that they may always be faithful disciples of Jesus, keep the light of Christ burning in their lives, and bear witness to Christ in their words and deeds, let us pray...

For all the human family: that we who have been created in the image and likeness of God may recognize and respect God's life in one another, let us pray...

For all who are oppressed and burdened, particularly the poor, the homeless, and those suffering hardship in the Pandemic, as refugees, and in war: that God will sustain them with love and guide them to the assistance which they need, let us pray...

For what other intentions do we want to pray this holy night....

Fourth Part: The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts

Join in the Dance (BB 571)

Refrain

Join in the dance of the earth's jubilation!
This is the feast of the Love of God.
Shout from the heights to the ends of creation.
Jesus the Savior is risen from the grave!

Wake, O people; sleep no longer: greet the breaking day!
Christ, Redeemer, Lamb and Lion, turns the night away! **Refrain**

Love's triumphant day of victory heaven opens wide.
On the tree of hope and glory death itself has died! **Refrain**

Christ forever, Lord of ages, Love beyond our dreams:
Christ, our hope of heaven's glory, all that yet will be! **Refrain**

I Know that my Redeemer Lives (BB 685)

I know that my redeemer lives, he One who calls me home.
I long to see God face to face, to see with my own eyes.

Refrain

I know that my Redeemer lives, that I shall rise again.
I know that my Redeemer lives, that I shall rise again.

I know that I shall one day see the goodness of the Lord,
when God will wipe away our tears, and death will be no more. **Refrain**

The last day I shall rise again, shall be remade like God,
My home shall be by God's own side, the dying, rising Lord. **Refrain**

Offertory Prayers

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread
we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine
we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.
Blessed be God forever.

Pray, brothers and sisters, 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.

Accept, we ask, O Lord, the prayers of your people with the sacrificial offerings, that what has begun in the paschal mysteries may, by the working of your power, bring us to the healing of eternity. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Eucharistic Prayer (if you are watching the video or listening to the audio, please follow along and participate with Fr. Jack; and continue with the Communion Songs below.)

Service Music: Mass of Glory, B 901

Communion Song Take and Eat (B 359)

Refrain

Take and eat; take and eat: this is my body given up for you.
Take and drink; take and drink: this is my blood given up for you.

I am the Word that spoke and light was made; I am the seed that dies to be reborn;
I am the bread that comes from heaven above. I am the vine that fills your cup with joy. **Refrain**

I am the way that leads the exile home; I am the truth that sets the captive free;
I am the life that raises up the dead; I am your peace, true peace my gift to you. **Refrain**

I am the Lamb that takes away your sin; I am the gate that guards you night and day.
You are my flock; you know the shepherd's voice; You are my own: your ransom is my blood.
Refrain

Rise Up With Him

People, wait no more. God has shown you the glory of the Lord!
By the cross we claim our freedom. Christ has risen to everlasting life!

Refrain

And we'll rise up, rise up with him, and we'll rise, rise to new life!
And we'll rise up, rise up with him, for with Jesus, who leads us,
By grace we will rise up with him.

Every knee shall bend, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
Lord and Savior of all nations, our salvation, to everlasting life! **Refrain**

Jesus, whom we love, we proclaim your word for ages all to come.
Alleluia, sing a new song, Glory to our God of everlasting life! **Refrain**

Prayer After Communion

Pour out on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love, and in your kindness make those you have nourished by this paschal Sacrament one in mind and heart. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Final Blessing

May almighty God bless you through today's Easter Solemnity and, in his compassion, defend you from every assault of sin. **Amen**

And may God, who restores you to eternal life, in the Resurrection of the Only Begotten, endow you with the prize of immortality. **Amen**

Now that the days of the Lord's Passion have drawn to a close, may you who celebrate the gladness of the Paschal Feast come with Christ's help, and exulting in spirit, to those feasts that are celebrated in eternal joy. **Amen**

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Creator, and the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit come down on you and remain with you forever.

Dismissal

Cantor: Go in peace, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Response: **Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia**

Dismissal Amen

Amen, amen, alleluia, Amen, amen, alleluia, Amen, amen, alleluia, Amen, amen, alleluia.

Song of Sending: All Shall Be Well

All shall be well! For on our Easter skies see Christ the Sun of Righteousness arise.

All shall be well! The sacrifice is made; the sinner freed; the price of pardon paid.

All shall be well! The cross and passion past; dark night is done, bright morning come at last.

Jesus alive! Now on our Easter skies, see Christ the Sun of Righteousness arise.

All shall be well! The cross and passion past; dark night is done, bright morning come at last.

Jesus alive! Rejoice and sing again, "All shall be well forevermore, Amen!"