

Lectionary

You are invited to follow the first two readings while seated, and as is the custom, to just listen, standing if possible, as the Holy Gospel is proclaimed.

Easter Saturday Vigil 4th April 2026

The Collect

Grant, Lord,
that we who are baptized into the death of your
Son our Saviour Jesus Christ may continually
put to death our evil desires and be buried with
him; and that through the grave and gate of
death we may pass to our joyful resurrection;
through his merits, who died and was buried
and rose again for us,
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

New Testament: Romans 6:3-11

A reading from Pauls letter to the Romans.

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord,
All: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.*

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary

went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him.

Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee;
there they will see me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

God of Life,
who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy:

grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

