

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.  
You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.  
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge,  
alleluia, alleluia.

**GLORIA**

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 King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

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.

**COLLECT**

O God, who on this day, through your Only Begotten Son,  
have conquered death and unlocked for us the path to eternity,  
grant, we pray, that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit, rise up in the light of life.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

**FIRST READING**

Ac 10:34, 37-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.  
Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea: about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**PSALM**

Ps 117 (118):1-2, 16-17, 22-23

Response:

**This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.**

Or: **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.  
Let the sons of Israel say:  
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up.  
I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. (R.)

**SECOND READING**

Col 3:1-4

(Alternative Second Reading 1 Cor. 5:6-8)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**SEQUENCE**

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.  
The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;  
and Christ, the undefiled,  
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.  
Death with life contended;  
combat strangely ended!  
Life's own Champion, slain,  
yet lives to reign.  
Tell us, Mary:  
say what thou didst see  
upon the way.  
The tomb the Living did enclose;  
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!  
The angels there attesting,  
shroud with grave-clothes resting.  
Christ, my hope, has risen:  
he goes before you into Galilee.  
That Christ is truly risen  
from the dead we know.  
Victorious king, thy mercy show!

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed;  
let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord.  
Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL**

Jn 20:1-9

(Alternative gospels: Lk 24:1-12, or in the afternoon or evening: Lk 24:13-35)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they

have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES**

Dear brethren (brothers and sisters), through the Paschal Mystery we have been buried with Christ in Baptism, so that we may walk with him in newness of life. And so, now that our Lenten observance is concluded,

let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and his works and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church.

And so I ask you:

Priest: Do you renounce Satan?

**All: I do.**

Priest: And all his works?

**All: I do.**

Priest: And all his empty show?

**All: I do.**

Priest: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

**All: I do.**

Priest: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

**All: I do.**

Priest: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

**All: I do.**

And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Exultant with paschal gladness, O Lord, we offer the sacrifice by which your Church is wondrously reborn and nourished. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

**Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia;  
therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Look upon your Church, O God, with unfailing love and favour, so that, renewed by the paschal mysteries, she may come to the glory of the resurrection. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

# Sunday Message

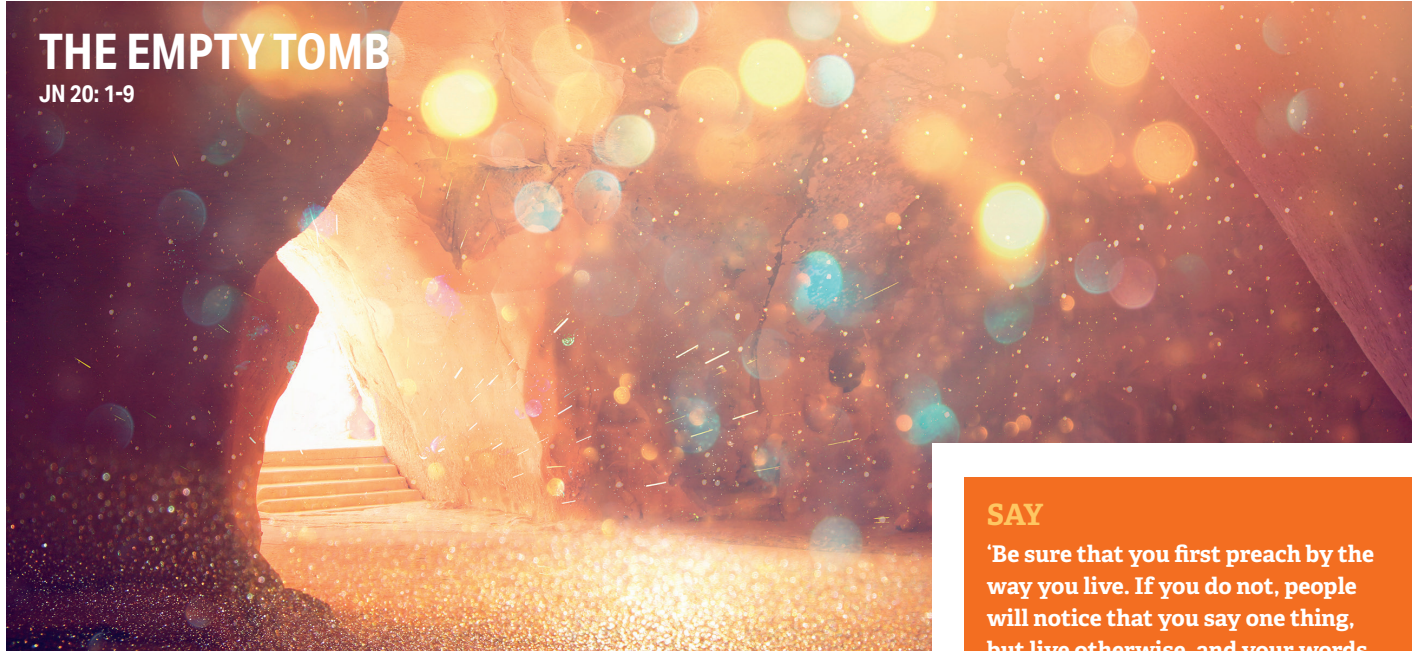
EASTER SUNDAY

THE WORD

Year C • 20th April 2025 • Colour: White • Psalter Week 1

## THE EMPTY TOMB

JN 20: 1-9



The Gospel reading tells the story of the first Easter. A mixture of excitement and confusion as Mary Magdalene discovers the empty tomb and then runs to break the news to Simon Peter and the disciple whom Jesus loved.

Those closest to Jesus receive the news first and then slowly, news of this great event spreads throughout the towns and countryside. We read St. Paul's letter in the second reading encouraging us to look higher, all the way to the top, to Christ. Christians are to think of what's above, not what's on earth. We're to live where Christ is – as a parish, as a community. We're a risen community, we're an Easter people and through our baptism, we share in Christ's new life and risen life of the first Easter. ■

### SAY

**'Be sure that you first preach by the way you live. If you do not, people will notice that you say one thing, but live otherwise, and your words will bring only cynical laughter and a derisive shake of the head.'**  
*(Saint Charles Borromeo)*

### DO

Read the Gospel again and sense the joy and confusion Jesus' followers must have felt on this Resurrection Day.

### LEARN

**'The Church is the visible plan of God's love for humanity because God desires that the whole human race may become one People of God, form one Body of Christ, and be built up into one temple of the Holy Spirit.'**  
*(Paul VI, June 22, 1973)*



### REFLECT

I think we all have experience of happy people in our lives. They're the ones who are involved in the world, indeed you might even describe yourself as a happy person!! Such a person enjoys festivals of life – like birthdays, first communions, confirmations, graduations, and marriages. An involved person sees problems like poverty, racism and hunger and tries to solve them. But occasionally such a person is tempted to lose hope – perhaps feeling abandoned by others in the struggle for justice and misunderstood by even the closest friends and relatives. Suffering and violence continue to grip our world and witnessing the disfigurement of people due to war and violence breaks our hearts. The challenge of Easter today is to understand human suffering in the light of Jesus' resurrection. We must take God's part in protecting against the violence and the suffering that are accepted so readily as inevitable.

Christians see help against despair in the celebration of Easter. The resurrection of our Lord is the central mystery of our faith, our chief festival of life. It gives hope to those who've lost it. Theologian and scholar Harold A. Buetow describes it as the day on which Jesus snatched victory from the jaws of defeat, vindicated his life and teachings and confirmed our faith. It's the most exciting event in world history. It isn't only an event that happened once in the past: it's the power of God that's seen constantly in people's lives. The resurrection is a sign of God's loving interest in our world. ■