



# Celebrating Easter

Easter is the most important day of the Church year. It is celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon of spring. The Easter season begins with the celebration of the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday and continues for the next 50 days, ending on Pentecost Sunday.



## Prayer

*Risen Jesus, you are alive and with us. Help me be glad and rejoice.*

## *We Reflect During Easter*

Easter is a time to reflect on the gift of **eternal life**. Jesus died on the cross for our sins. He rose from the dead and returned to Heaven to hold a place for all of us.



What will Heaven be like?

Why is it so special?

### ***Eternal Life in Heaven***

Imagine Heaven. Draw a picture about what you see, hear, and feel.

A large, empty rectangular box with a dashed green border, intended for drawing.

### ***Reading God's Word***

I give them **eternal life**, so they will always live, even if they die.

*adapted from John 10:28*

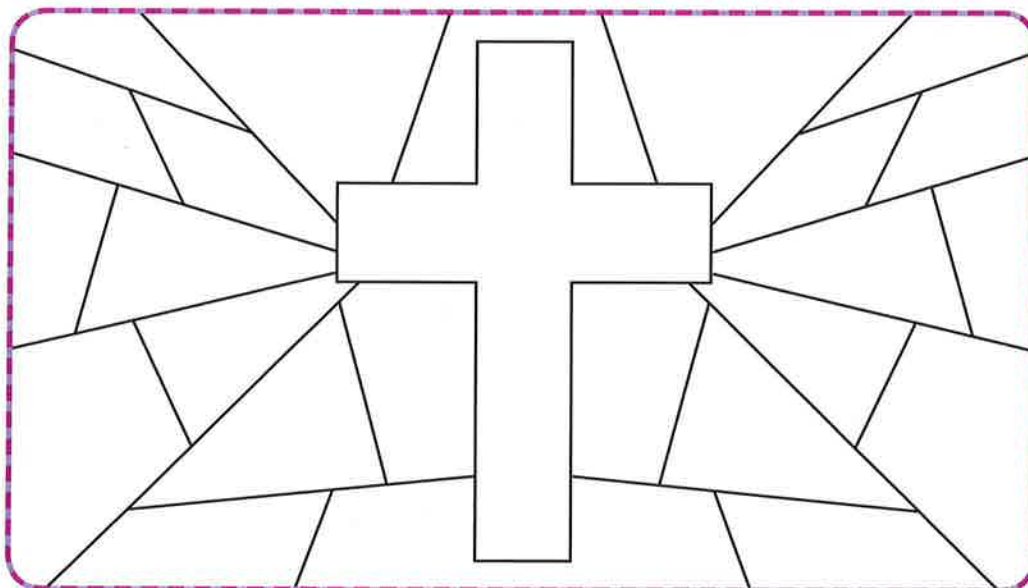
## Mass During Easter

At Mass during Easter, you may hear joyful music. The parish rejoices that Jesus is risen. How does Easter Sunday Mass at your church feel different from other Sunday celebrations?

### What We Experience

When you look around your church, you may see beautiful Easter flowers. You may also see a cross draped with a white cloth. This reminds us that Jesus is risen.

Color your own Resurrection symbol below.



### Ready for the Sacraments

The sacraments are ways that Jesus comes close to us. In Baptism we become members of God's family. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Jesus forgives our sins and heals our hearts. In the Eucharist, Jesus chooses to live within us, strengthening us to bring his love to the world.

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## Faith Summary

Easter is a time of great joy. We remember that Jesus is risen. It is also a time to reflect on the gift of eternal life.



### Words I Learned

**eternal life**

### Ways of Being Like Jesus

Jesus' new life fills us with joy.

*Spread joy to those you meet today.*



### Prayer

*Dear Jesus, thank you for the gift of eternal life. Help me live with faith and hope.*



## With My Family

**Activity** When you go to Mass during Easter, look around your church. Find examples of the details described on page 149. Talk about what you see and hear.

**Ready for the Sacraments** Discuss what your family meals together mean to you. Tell your family that the time you spend together around the table can help you prepare to celebrate and live out the sacraments—gifts from God that bring abundant life.

**Family Prayer** Invite family members to pray the Rosary together during Easter.