



**National Catholic
Partnership on Disability**
Alianza Nacional Católica
sobre la Discapacidad

Adapted Faith Formation Activities for April

**The Resurrection
of the Lord**



Council on Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities

Family Faith Formation



“The witness of Christian life given by parents in the family comes to children with tenderness and parental respect. Children thus perceive and joyously live the closeness of God and of Jesus made manifest by their parents in such a way that the first Christian experience frequently leaves decisive traces which last throughout life.”

–General Directory for Catechesis #226



Four Keys for Practicing Faith

- **Caring Conversations**
- **Family Devotions and Prayer**
- **Family Rituals and Traditions**
- **Family Service**

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Caring Conversations

The Resurrection of the Lord

Between the time of his death and resurrection, Jesus' followers experienced feelings of great sadness, doubt, disbelief, fear, and confusion. As a family, consider reading one or more of the following Gospels:

The Resurrection of Jesus

Luke 24:1-12; Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-8; John 20:1-10

The Appearance on the Road to Emmaus

Luke 24:13-35; Mark 16:12-13

The Appearance to Mary Magdalene

Mark 16:9-11; John 20:11-18

The Appearance to the Disciples

Luke 24:36-49; Matthew 28:16-20;

Mark 16:14-18; John 20:19-23

The Appearance to Thomas

John 20:24-29



Art design by Freepik



Caring Conversations

The Resurrection of the Lord

After completing a reading, discuss how the followers' feelings changed to joy and belief. Additionally, family members may choose to share personal experiences of how they went from confusion to clarity, sadness to joy, doubt to belief, or fear to peace. Loved ones may opt to draw a picture to display the change in their feelings. Remind each other that Jesus wants us to be happy and peaceful. Conclude your conversation by reciting the following verse from Romans 15:13 -

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.



Family Devotions and Prayer

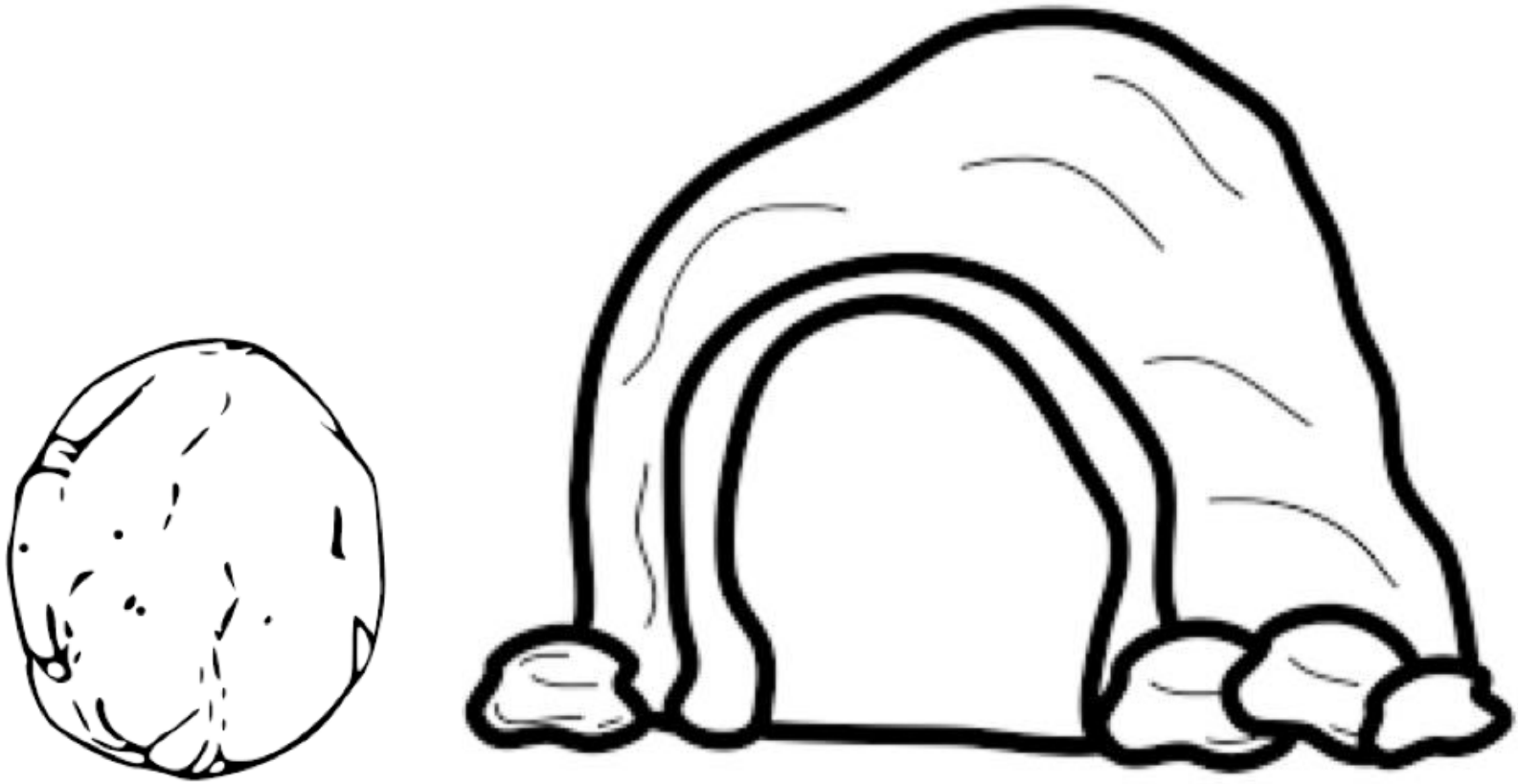
The Resurrection of the Lord

Jesus' resurrection is celebrated on Easter Sunday. Catholic Online describes Easter as "the fulfillment of God's promises to mankind" (<https://www.catholic.org/lent/easter.php>). Throughout the bible, God promises to lighten our troubles if we bring our problems to Him. By bringing your burdens to Jesus, he will bring you comfort and help you endure your hardships. In recognition of this promise, consider creating a prayer box for your family. Family members can decorate the box with an empty tomb and bible verses about God's promise. Cut a hole in the box at the opening of the tomb. Write down your problems and symbolically give your burdens to Jesus by putting them in His empty tomb. Family members can help each other by writing down the concerns of loved ones and dropping them in the box.

Sample prayer box:



Cut out the tomb & stone to decorate the prayer box.



(images from: clipart-library.com)



Cut out the bible verses to decorate your box.

Cast your care upon the Lord,
who will give you support.
He will never allow the righteous
to stumble.

Psalms 55:23

For I am the Lord, your God,
who grasp your right hand;
it is I who say to you,
Do not fear, I will help you.

Isaiah 41:13

Have no anxiety at all, but in
everything, by prayer and petition,
with thanksgiving, make your
requests known to God.

Philippians 4:6

So humble yourselves under the
mighty hand of God, that he
might exalt you in due time.
Cast all your worries upon him
because he cares for you.

1 Peter 5:6-7



Come to me, all you who
labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

Do not fear: I am with you;
do not be anxious: I am your God.
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

Like a shepherd he feeds his flock;
in his arms he gathers the lambs,
Carrying them in his bosom,
leading the ewes with care.

Isaiah 40:11

The righteous cry out, the Lord
hears and he rescues them
from all their afflictions.

Psalms 34:18



Family Ritual and Tradition

The Resurrection of the Lord

Many families have traditional food that they prepare for Easter dinner. This year, your family may choose to include "Pane di Pasqua" (Italian Easter Bread) as part of your meal. This bread is very symbolic of the events surrounding Easter:

- its wreath shape reflects Jesus' crown of thorns
- the three braids of bread are in honor of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
- the eggs represent our new life brought about by Jesus' resurrection
- the bread is a reminder of Jesus' sharing of the Eucharist at the Last Supper

A short movie, "Grandma's Bread" ("El Pan de la Abuelita"), was produced in 1985 by Franciscan Communications. This 18 minute story is about the relationship between a young boy, Mario, and his grandmother, Nonna. The story connects the symbolism of the Easter Bread to Catholic teachings and the Eucharist. It is available at many on-line sites including -

<https://www.comcenter.com/product/LIGU-366070/Grandmas-Bread-and-El-Pan-de-la-Abuelita/>



Perhaps your family will watch the movie prior to making the bread. Maybe you'll choose to snack on the bread while watching the movie! Many Italian Easter Bread recipes are available on line including - <https://www.curiouscuisiniere.com/italian-easter-bread>



Family Service

The Resurrection of the Lord

It is written in all four Gospels that Jesus appeared to the disciples after the resurrection:

Matthew 28:18-20

Then Jesus approached and said to them, “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

Mark 16:15

He said to them, “Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature.”

Luke 24:46-47

And he said to them, “Thus it is written that the Messiah would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.”

John 20:21

Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”

This Easter, your family may choose to serve as disciples by spreading the good news of Jesus’ resurrection. One way to share this message is by filling plastic Easter eggs with verses from the bible. These “Good News” eggs can be given to people you know or placed outside for others to find. Following are some verses that you may choose to include in your eggs



Directions:

Copy and cut out the verses below. Place one verse in a plastic Easter egg and distribute.

I am with you always.

Matthew 28:20

Peace be with you.

Luke 24:36

He has been raised.

Mark 16:6

**Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel
to every creature.**

Mark 16:15

Do not be afraid.

Matthew 28:10

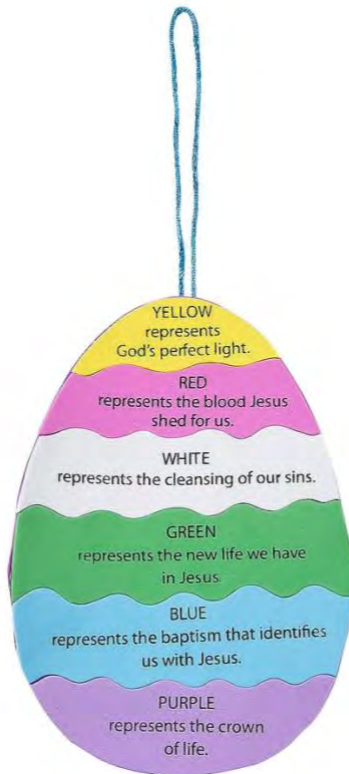
The Lord has truly been raised.

Luke 24:34



Family Service

The Resurrection of the Lord



YELLOW – Represents God's Perfect Light

RED – Represents the blood Jesus shed for us

WHITE – Represents the cleansing of our sins

GREEN – Represents the new life we have in Jesus

BLUE – Represents the baptism that identifies us with Jesus

PURPLE – Represents the crown of life



Further Reflection

Alleluia! Jesus is Alive

Jesus died on the Cross on Friday. Mary his Mother and some of his other friends were with him. After Jesus died, his friends placed his body in a tomb on the side of a hill on Friday afternoon. They rolled a large rock to cover the entrance to the tomb.

The Bible tells us that early Sunday morning when the sun was just coming up, Jesus' friends Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of James, went to the tomb where Jesus was buried. They brought spices and oils to anoint Jesus' body.

As they walked, they were concerned about how they would be able to roll the stone away from the entrance to the tomb. When they reached the place on the hillside where the tomb was, they saw that the stone had already been rolled away. Looking inside the tomb, they were startled by two angels dressed in robes shining like bright white snow.

"Why are you looking for Jesus?" an angel asked them. "He is not here. Do not be afraid. God has given him new life. Go quickly and tell Peter, Andrew, James, John and Jesus' other friends."

When Peter and the other heard what Mary Magdalene told them, they couldn't believe it was true. So they ran back to the tomb where the body of Jesus had been buried.

John ran much faster than Peter so he waited until Peter caught up with him. What Mary Magdalene said was true! Peter went home, amazed at what he saw!

John 20:1-10





USCCB Scripture Resources

Daily Readings:

[English](#)

[Daily Readings Audio](#)

[Video Reflection](#)

Click on the links above to reflect on Scripture by reading, listening or viewing the reading.



National Catholic Partnership on Disability

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