

Easter Sunday Lesson

Lesson Goal: This lesson's goal is for the student to understand how we remember our Baptism at Easter.

Overview: Easter Sunday commemorates Jesus' Resurrection from the dead - three days after Jesus was placed in the tomb on Good Friday. The Easter Triduum concludes at sundown on Easter Sunday. This is the most important feast of the year; it is the "Feasts of Feasts".

Pre-Video Discussion: Read the Easter story from the Bible. The different accounts are: Matthew 28:1-11; Mark 16:1-11; Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-18

Watch "Easter Sunday" on Catholic Brain

Comprehension and Discussion Questions:

Note: These questions are asked after the video to check student comprehension and to clarify and further discuss and explain what was seen on the video.

1) What special word returns at Easter?

With Easter comes the return of the word "Alleluia". It has been missing from the Mass since Lent began. It is usually sung before the gospel reading.

For thousands of years Christians have greeted each other on Easter day with these joyful words - "Christ is risen, alleluia!" and have responded with "He is risen indeed, alleluia, alleluia!"

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2) What new candle is lit during the Easter season?

The new paschal candle was brought into the church during the Easter Vigil Mass. The paschal candle symbolizes the Light of Christ - the Risen Christ. It will be lit every Sunday during the entire Easter season. The paschal candle will also be lit throughout the year at baptisms and funerals. Explain how the lit paschal candle stood beside the baptismal font during their baptism.

3) What sacrament are we reminded of at Easter?

On Easter, we are reminded of our Baptism. The priest sprinkles us with holy water during Easter. During Easter Mass, we renew our baptismal vows. These vows are the words we declare we believe during the Apostles Creed. When we were baptized as an infant our parents spoke on our behalf. They answered these questions for us with “I do”:

Do you believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth?

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

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?

Easter is a time of remembering and renewing those baptismal promises that our parents made for us. The resurrection reminds us that at our baptism our old life of sin (original sin) “died” and we “rose again” to become sons and daughters of God. We are reborn into a new life with Christ; we share in His dying and rising.

4) How long does the Easter Season last?

The Easter season lasts for fifty days. It is a fifty day celebration! Jesus’ Ascension will be in forty days and ten days later is Pentecost.