

# Prayers and Hymns for the Easter Season:

Compiled by Jennifer Gregory Miller, 2012

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The Sunday prayers are used for the whole week. Prayers can be used as mealtime prayers or family prayers throughout the day. Omit sections in parentheses if not using for mealtimes.

## Prayers adapted from:

*Family Customs: Easter to Pentecost* by Helen McLoughlin, The Liturgical Press, 1956, 1977.

*Table Blessings: Mealtime Prayers Throughout the Year* by Brother Victor-Antoine d'Avila-Latourrette, Ave Maria Press, 1994.

Liturgy of the Hours or Divine Office

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## Hymn: Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

1. Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!  
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!  
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!  
Unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!  
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!  
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!
3. But the pains that He endured, Alleluia!  
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!  
Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia!  
Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!
4. Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!  
Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!  
Praise Him, all ye heav'nly host, Alleluia!  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!



**Collect:** Almighty ever-living God,  
who willed the Paschal Mystery  
to be encompassed as a sign in fifty days,  
grant that from out of the scattered nations  
the confusion of many tongues  
may be gathered by heavenly grace  
into one great confession of your name.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Pentecost Sunday

### Antiphon:

Today we celebrate the feast of Pentecost, alleluia; on this day the Holy Spirit appeared before the apostles in tongues of fire and gave them His spiritual gifts. He sent them out to preach to the whole world, and to proclaim that all who believe and are baptized shall be saved, alleluia.

### Family Prayers:

**Father:** The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Family:** He sustains all creation and knows every word that is spoken, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Father:** Let us pray. O God, on this day Thou didst teach the hearts of Thy faithful people by the light of Thy Holy Spirit; grant us by the same Spirit a right judgment in all things and ever to rejoice in His consolations.

(Come, O Spirit of truth, and bless the food and drink at this table, and grant that we may be nourished abundantly with the ineffable gift of your presence.) Through Christ our Lord.

**Family:** Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Father:** Send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created; and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth, Alleluia, Alleluia.

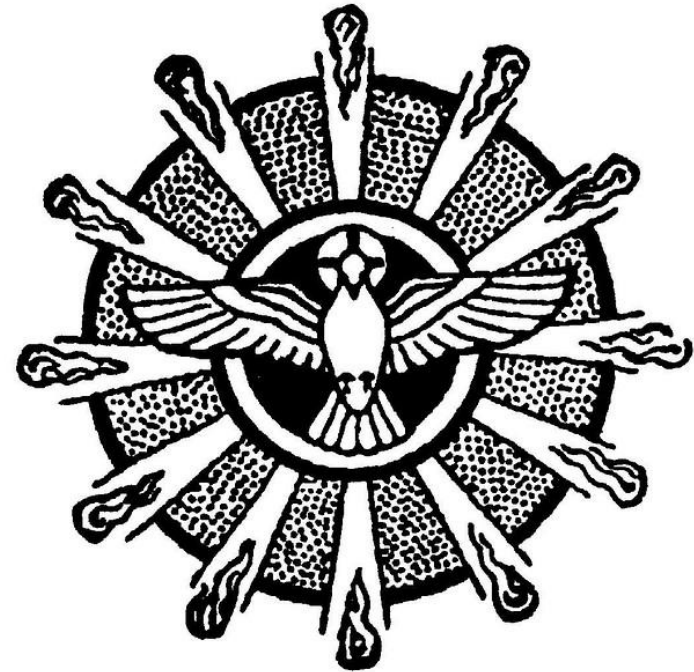
**Family:** The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world, Alleluia.

## Hymn: Ye Sons and Daughters (O Filii et Filiae)

1. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Ye sons and daughters of the Lord,  
The King of glory, King adored,  
This day Himself from death restored. Alleluia!
2. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
That Easter morn, at break of day,  
Went holy women on their way  
To see the tomb where Jesus lay. Alleluia!
3. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
And Magdalen and Salome  
And Mary, mother of James that day  
Came to anoint without delay, Alleluia!
4. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Of spices pure a precious store  
In their pure hands these women bore  
To anoint the sacred body o'er, Alleluia!
5. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
An angel clad in white they see.  
Who sat and spoke unto the three:  
"Your Lord has gone to Galilee." Alleluia!
6. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
The dear belov'd apostle John,  
Could faster than St. Peter run,  
Arriving first before the tomb. Alleluia!

## Ye Sons and Daughters (continued)

7. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
That night th'Apostles met in fear;  
Amidst them came the Lord most dear,  
And said "My peace be on all here." Alleluia!
8. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
When Thomas, first the tidings heard,  
How they had seen the Risen Lord,  
He doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia!
9. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
"My pierced side, O Thomas, see.  
My hands, my feet, I show to thee;  
Not faithless, but believing be." Alleluia!
10. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
When Thomas saw that wounded side  
a truth no longer he denied  
"Thou art my Lord and God," he cried. Alleluia!
11. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
How blest are they who have not seen  
Their Lord and yet believe in Him!  
For they eternal life shall win. Alleluia!
12. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Now let us praise the Lord most high  
and strive His name to magnify  
on this great day, through earth and sky. Alleluia!
13. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Whose mercy ever runneth o'er  
Whom men and angel hosts adore  
To Him be glory evermore. Alleluia!



**Collect:** Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord.  
so that we, who believe that the Savior of the human race  
is with you in glory,  
may experience, as he promised,  
until the end of the world,  
his abiding presence among us.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy  
Spirit,  
one god, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Seventh Sunday of Easter

### Antiphon:

I will send you the Spirit of truth Who comes from the Father. When the Paraclete comes He will bear witness to Me. Alleluia.

### Family Prayers:

**Father:** The Holy Spirit is the Paraclete, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Family:** He will teach you all things, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Father:** Lord Jesus, Christ, our true God. You gloriously ascended into heaven, and gladdened the hearts of Your disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit. Send upon us also, Your life-giving Spirit, that He may heal us of our infirmities, confirm us in the faith, and console us in our affliction.

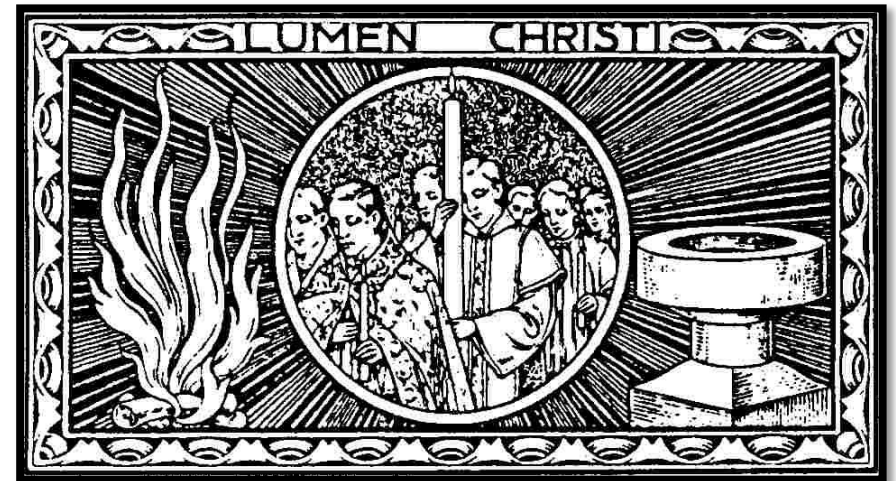
(Sanctify the food and drink at this table, multiply them in this room and throughout the world, and) bring us all one day to the banquet of eternal life.

**Family:** Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia.

## Ye Sons and Daughters (continued)

14. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
On this most holy day of days,  
To God your hearts and voices raise.  
In laud and jubilee and praise. Alleluia!

15. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Ye sons and daughters of the Lord,  
The King of glory, King adored,  
This day Himself from death restored. Alleluia!



## Hymn: At the Lamb's High Feast

1. At the Lamb's high feast we sing  
Praise to our victorious King:  
Who has washed us in the tide  
Flowing from His pierced side;  
Praise we Him whose love divine  
Gives the guests His blood for wine,  
Gives His body for the feast,  
Love the Victim, Love the Priest.
2. Where the Paschal blood is poured,  
Death's dark angel sheathes his sword;  
Israel's hosts triumphant go  
Through the wave that drowns the foe.  
Christ, the Lamb Whose blood was shed,  
Paschal victim, Paschal bread!  
With sincerity and love  
Eat we Manna from above.
3. Mighty Victim from on high,  
Powers of hell beneath Thee lie;  
Death is broken in the fight  
Thou hast brought us life and light.  
Now Thy banner Thou dost wave,  
Conquering Satan and the grave.  
See the prince of darkness quelled;  
Heaven's bright gates are open held.
4. Paschal triumph, Paschal joy,  
Only sin can this destroy;  
From sin's death do those set free,  
Souls reborn, dear Lord, in thee.  
Hymns of glory, songs of praise,  
Father; unto thee we raise.  
Risen Lord, all praise to Thee,  
Ever with the Spirit be. Amen.



**Collect:** O God, whose Son today ascended to the heavens as the Apostles looked on, grant, we pray, that, in accordance with his promise, we may be worthy for him to live with us always on earth, and we with him in heaven. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



## Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

### Antiphon:

O Victor King, Lord of power and might, today  
you have ascended in glory above the heavens.  
Do not leave me orphans, but send us the  
Father's promised gift, the Spirit of truth,  
alleluia.

### Family Prayers:

**Father:** God ascends amid shouts of joy, Alleluia.

**Family:** The Lord, amid trumpet blasts, Alleluia.

**Father:** I am ascending to my Father and your Father,  
Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Family:** To my God and your God, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Father:** O Lord, life-giving Christ, after fulfilling for us  
Your plan of redemption, from the Mount of  
Olives You ascended in glory, in the presence of  
Your disciples. You are now enthroned at the  
right hand of God, and from there You sent to us  
the Holy Spirit, to enlighten, strengthen, and save  
our souls.

Send Your blessing upon us (and upon this table  
today,) as You sent it upon Your disciples before  
Your departure, (and may this food strengthen us  
for Your service).

**Family:** Amen. Alleluia.

## Hymn: The Strife is O'er

1. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
The strife is o'er, the battle done,  
The victory of life is won;  
The song of triumph hath begun. Alleluia!
2. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
The powers of death have done their worst,  
But Christ their legions hath dispersed;  
Let shout of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!
3. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
The three sad days are quickly sped,  
He rises glorious from the dead:  
All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!
4. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
He closed the yawning gates of hell,  
The bars from heav'n's high portals fell;  
Let hymns of praise His triumphs tell! Alleluia!
5. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Lord! By the stripes which wounded Thee,  
From death's dread sting Thy servants free,  
That we may live and sing to Thee. Alleluia!

## Regina Caeli

During the Easter season the *Regina Caeli* is prayed at the 12:00 and 6:00 times of the day, replacing the Angelus.

V. Queen of heaven, rejoice! Alleluia.

R. For He whom you did merit to bear, Alleluia.

V. Has risen, as He said, Alleluia.

R. Pray for us to God, Alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia.

R. For the Lord is truly risen, Alleluia.

Let us pray.

O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant, we beseech you, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, his Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life, through the same Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## Regina Caeli (sung)

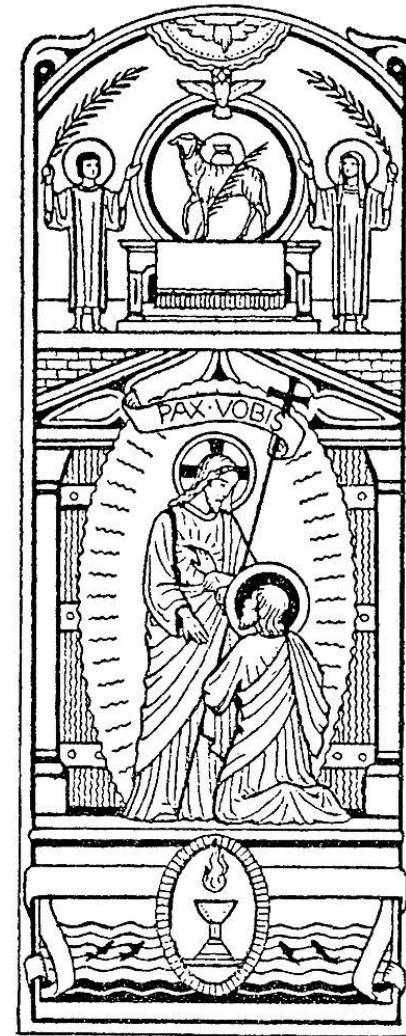
Regina caeli laetare, alleluia.

Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.

Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia.

Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

*Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia!  
for he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia!  
has risen as he said, alleluia!  
Pray for us to God, alleluia!*



**Collect:** Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honor of the risen Lord, and that what we relive in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

### Antiphon:

If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him. We will come to him and make our home with him, alleluia.

### Family Prayers:

**Father:** Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on us, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Family:** You have risen from the dead, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Father:** Eternal and merciful God, the yearly celebration of the paschal mystery renews our covenant of reconciliation with You. May this new rebirth we celebrate, through the power of the resurrection of Jesus, show its effects in the way we act and live.

(Bless the food and drink at this table, and make us always mindful of the needs of the poor and hungry.)  
We ask this through Christ our risen Lord.

**Family:** Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Father:** Ask, and you shall receive that your joy may be full.

**Family:** For the Father Himself loves you because you have loved Me, and believed, Alleluia, Alleluia.



## Octave of Easter

### Antiphon:

**Father:** This is the day the Lord has made, Alleluia.

**Family:** Let us rejoice and be glad in it, Alleluia.

### Family Prayers:

**Father:** Christ is risen, Alleluia.

**Family:** He is truly risen, Alleluia.

**Father:** The Lord is risen from the grave, Alleluia.

**Family:** Who hung upon the Cross for us, Alleluia.

**Father:** Blessed are you, Lord Jesus, Clothed in the splendor of your resurrection. You accepted death on the cross for our sake, and therefore, the power of God raised you on the third day. Grant us the grace to celebrate this Easter festival with the new bread of sincerity of truth.

(Bless our paschal meal as you once blessed the meal with your disciples, and be forever present as guest at our table until the day we join you in the paschal feast of heaven.)

**Family:** Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Father:** This is the day the Lord has made, Alleluia.

**Family:** Let us rejoice and be glad in it, Alleluia.

**Father:** To God the Father let us sing, to God the Son, our Risen King.

**Family:** And let us equally adore the Spirit, God forever more, Alleluia.



**Collect:** Almighty ever-living God, constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

### Antiphon:

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you, says the Lord, alleluia.

### Family Prayers:

**Father:** The Lord is truly risen, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Family:** He has appeared to Simon, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Father:** Blessed are you, God of our fathers and mothers, who makes us recall during this blessed season the rising of Christ to new life, the springtime of our redemption. By the power of His resurrection grant us true renewal of mind and body, that we may walk in the steps of the Gospel with renewed courage and strength.

(We thank You for this meal, which comes to us from Your hands. May Your blessing be upon it, and upon all those who share it with us.) We ask this in Jesus' name.

**Family:** Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Father:** I am the true vine, you are the branches! He who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Family:** As the Father has loved Me, I also have loved you, Alleluia.



## Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

### Antiphon:

Because you have seen me, Thomas, you have believed; blessed are they who have not seen me and yet believe, alleluia.

### Family Prayers:

**Family:** The Lord is truly risen, Alleluia.

**Father:** Blessed are you, Lord Jesus, Christ, the true Paschal Lamb, and the conqueror over death. After your resurrection, you wished to share joyfully with your apostles, a simple meal of bread and fish.  
(Bless the food and drink at this table, and) make us partake in the joy your disciples felt when they discovered your presence in the breaking of the bread.

**Family:** Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Father:** Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and divinity and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.

**Family:** Alleluia.



**Collect:** Almighty ever-living God,  
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,  
so that the humble flock may reach  
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.  
Who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Fourth Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday)

### Antiphon:

My sheep will hear my voice. I, their Lord,  
know them. Alleluia

### Family Prayers:

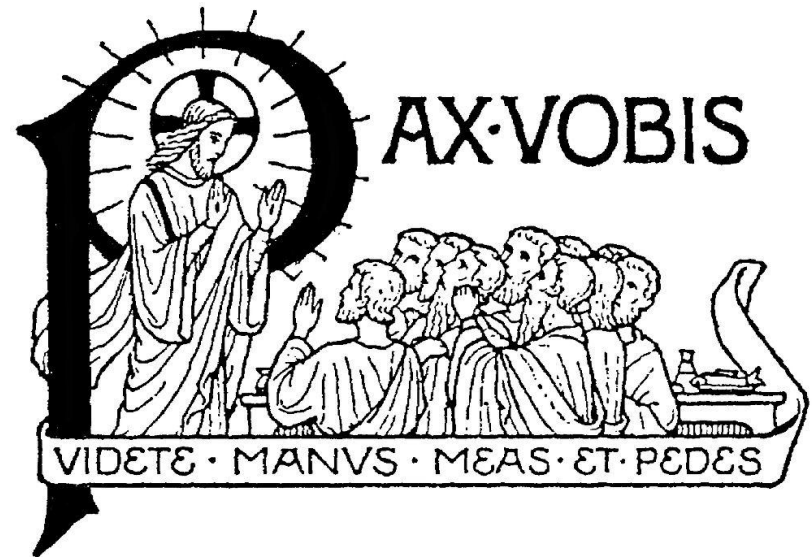
**Father:** Alleluia. Risen is the Good Shepherd who laid down His life for His sheep and who deigned to die for His flock, Alleluia.

**Family:** Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Father:** Lord Jesus Christ, on the evening of your resurrection, with eyes of faith and love, your disciples recognized your presence during the breaking of bread. Increase the gift of faith in all of us. May it daily transform our lives, and allow us to discover you anew in our brothers and sisters in need.

(Bless this meal and those who partakes of it, and) keep us always safe under the protection of your love.

**Family:** Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia.



**Collect:** God of everlasting mercy,  
Who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast  
Kindle the faith of the people you have made your own,  
Increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed,  
That all may grasp and rightly understand  
In what font they have been washed,  
By whose Spirit they have been reborn,  
By whose Blood they have been redeemed.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Third Sunday of Easter

### Antiphon:

Jesus said to his disciples: Bring me some of the fish you have just caught. Simon Peter went aboard and hauled ashore the net, full of fish. Alleluia.

### Family Prayers:

**Father:** The disciples rejoiced, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Family:** When they saw the risen Lord, Alleluia.

**Father:** Praise and glory be given to You, God our Father, who gives us the joy to partake in the rising of Christ to new life. May the joy of our paschal celebration remain with us all the days of our lives, and be forever a sign of your loving presence among us.  
(Bless our daily nourishment and all those present at this table, and make us always mindful of the needs of others.) We ask You through Christ our risen Lord.

**Family:** Amen. Alleluia, Alleluia.



**Collect:** May your people exult for ever, O God,  
In renewed youthfulness of spirit,  
So that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption,  
We may look forward in confident hope  
To the rejoicing of the day of resurrection.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
One God, for ever and ever.