



Children's liturgy – Easter Sunday

Welcome: Today is a very special day. It's Easter Sunday when Jesus rose from the dead. We are celebrating and thinking of new life.

Opening prayer: God of life, we celebrate the rising of your Son today and the new life that you bring into the world. We thank you for all the good things that you have given to us. Help us to share them with others. Amen.

Gospel: John 20:1-9

Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the entrance. She went running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

Then Peter and the other disciple went to the tomb. The two of them were running, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and saw the linen wrappings, but he did not go in. Behind him came Simon Peter, and he went straight into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there and the cloth which had been round Jesus' head. It was not lying with the linen wrappings but was rolled up by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in; he saw and believed. (They still did not understand the scripture which said that he must rise from death.)

Gospel reflection: What do you remember about this reading?

Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb where Jesus has been buried, but when she gets there the body has gone. How do you think she felt when she realised this?

She fetches Simon Peter and John and tells them that Jesus has gone. They reach the tomb and see that it is empty. The disciples finally realise that Jesus has risen from the dead and they believe in him. They know that he is the Son of God.

Jesus is risen from the dead, giving new life to us all. How does that make you feel?

Easter is a time of joy and celebration. How will you celebrate Easter today?

Around the world people celebrate Easter in different ways. For instance, in Brazil people eat a special food called paçoca, which is prepared by mixing crushed nuts and other ingredients together into a paste.

In Ethiopia people wear traditional white clothes called yabesha libs and eat special sourdough bread called dabo. They bake enough of this bread to offer a slice to everyone who comes to visit the house.

Do you know of any other Easter traditions from other countries?

Although we live in different countries, and speak different languages, and eat different food, we are all God's children. We are part of one big global family and we are called to care for one another as sisters and brothers.

We are filled with hope today because Jesus' resurrection shows us that nothing is impossible for God. God can do anything.

We love God and give thanks and praise for the new life we have received and which we can see springing up in nature all around us.

We hope we can help each other to be the best people we can be and to live full and happy lives, wherever we are in the world.

We pray that through God's grace we can care for one another and work together to make the world a better place for us all, and especially for those of us who are poor.

What is your hope for the world this Easter? How can we make it happen?

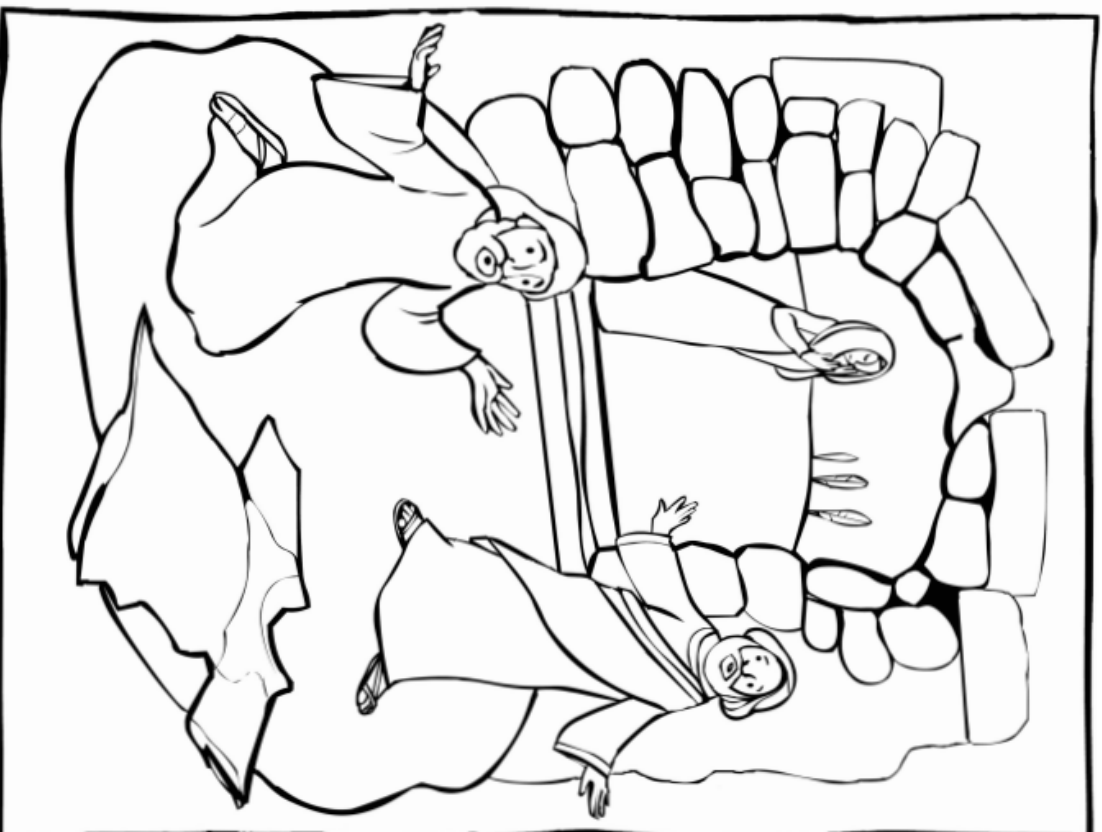
Activity

Colour in the illustration and think about your hopes for the world. Have a go at the other activities too.

Remember to share with your grown ups all that you have heard and thought about in the liturgy today. Look out for signs of hope and new life in the week ahead and to do one thing to try and make your hope for the world a reality.

Easter Sunday

Gospel: John 20:1-9



“Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in; he saw and believed.”

Colour in the picture to remind yourself of what the disciples found when they went to Jesus' tomb. Today is Easter day. Jesus is risen from the dead, giving new life to us all. Alleluia!

Easter pebble prayer craft

Paint or decorate a pebble with a symbol of hope, like a sunrise, an egg or a flower bud. The pebble can remind you of the stone in front of Jesus' tomb which was rolled away.

Hold onto this pebble as you pray during the week and tell God your hopes for the world.

Brazilian Easter treat recipe

At home, try making paçoca, a sweet peanut treat from Brazil, which is often eaten at Easter.

Please be mindful of any allergies when making this.

Ingredients

- 2 cups roasted unsalted peanuts
 - 2 cups white granulated sugar
 - 2 cups fine bread crumbs
 - pinch of salt
 - ½ cup whole milk
- #### Method
1. Put the peanuts in a food processor until they are finely ground.
 2. Tip ground peanuts into a large mixing bowl and mix in the sugar, bread crumbs and salt.
 3. Add the milk and knead the mixture until it comes together.
 4. Put the mixture into a greased baking tray or loaf tin.
 5. Press it down and smooth out the surface.
 6. Put in the fridge for at least three hours. Cut into 5cm squares.
 7. Serve cold or at room temperature.

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CAFOD Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

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