

Jesus is alive



Sign of the Cross. Let's praise.
**GLORY be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

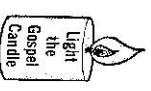
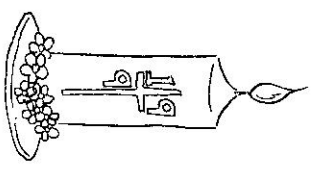
This is the greatest day of the year. Let's sing a song of praise.
**Rise and shine and give God the glory glory,
Rise and shine and give God the glory glory,
Rise and shine and give God the glory glory
Children of the Lord.**



quietly by yourselves
Look around the room, try and think of an impossible task for me or for anyone else here this morning.
When you have thought of one ask me or someone else to test it out.



when each child has had time to think
Are you ready? What's your test?
(Without too much chaos, if that's possible, test out the impossible and good luck!)
When everyone is calm.
Today Jesus manages what everyone thought was impossible.
Jesus who died, is alive. Thanks be to God.



Give every child a candle.
Sing to the tune 'Once I caught a fish alive'
**One, two, three, four, five, my friend Jesus is alive
Six, seven, eight, nine, ten, yes he will come back again.**

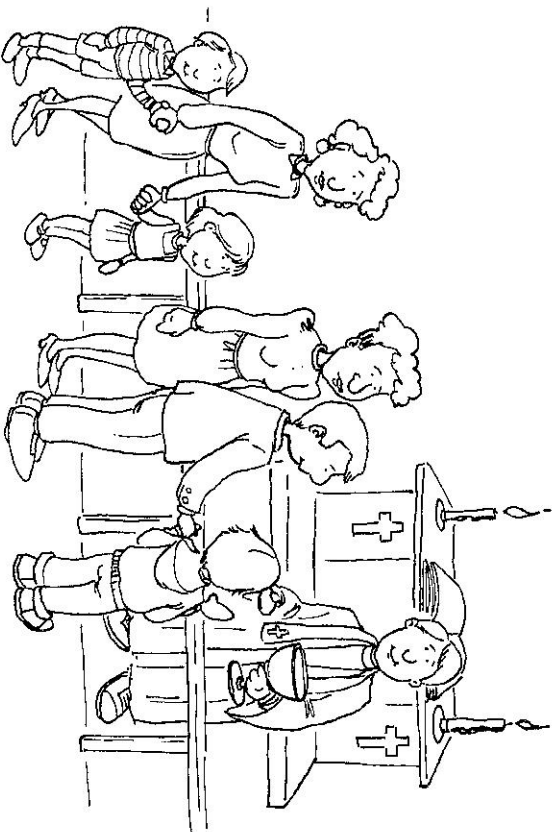


all stand (adapted from John 20:1-9)
Mary Magdalene went to visit Jesus' tomb.
When she got there
she saw that the large stone had been moved from the doorway.
She ran to tell Peter and John,
'Jesus isn't there'.
Peter and the other friends went to see for themselves.
When Peter got to the doorway he looked in.
He saw the clothes that Jesus had been wrapped in
lying on the floor.
Others looked too
and they believed.
Jesus is alive!

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.



Make an Easter candle or decorate your Gospel Candle to take home.
When you go back to church:
Look at the flowers.
Listen for a word you haven't heard for weeks. Anyone know which word? . . .
It's . . . Alleluia.
The priest will say it twice at the very end of Mass.
Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Us: **Thanks be to God Alleluia, Alleluia!**



ALLELUIA!

VISUAL AIDS

- > Resurrection pictures.
- > Materials to make a Resurrection cross (i.e. no crucified figure, and either white cloth draped over it, or decorate it with flowers).
- > Easter eggs and cards.
- > Resurrection garden.
- > Candle shape cut-outs.

SHARING

Encourage the children to talk about what Easter means to them.
It is the greatest, the most important celebration of the friends of Jesus.
Why? Because we celebrate that Jesus who died, is alive again, and can never die again.
To celebrate the resurrection, sing together 'Alleluia!'



JESUS IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

A reading from the Good News given to us by John.
Glory to you, Lord.

Say/sing together:

**Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ is risen,
let us celebrate!
Alleluia!**

On the first day of the week, early in the morning while it was still dark, Mary Magdalen went to Jesus' tomb. When she saw that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance she went running to Peter and John to say,
'Someone's taken Jesus' body away!'

They all went back to the tomb together. They saw that the linen cloth in which Jesus' body had been wrapped were all still there. Mary stayed outside the tomb, crying. Someone else came up behind her. Mary thought it was the gardener. 'Why are you crying?' he asked. Mary replied,
'They have taken my Lord away, and I don't know where they have put him. Do you know where he is?'

The stranger said,
'Mary!' and at once Mary knew that this was Jesus. He told her to go and tell the other disciples that she had seen him, and all the things he had said to her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

DISCUSSION

Who are the people mentioned in today's Gospel?
- John, Peter, Mary Magdalen, Jesus.
What happens?
What did they see?
What happens to Mary Magdalen?

ACTIVITIES

- > Have the children mime the Gospel.
- > Have the children complete or work out the following, in either words or mime:
If I had seen the empty tomb I would have . . .

Either:
> Give out blank paper/ card and have the children make an Easter card with an Easter message.

- > Make a Resurrection cross: i.e. decorate a plain cross with flowers, ribbons, etc. to celebrate the triumph of Jesus over death.

Or:
> Give out the candle shapes and have the children decorate them to make them into Easter candles.