



**Saint Joseph's, Saint Anne's & Holy Family And Saint Patrick's**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Of April 2026 - During the Holy Saturday Night of Easter - The Resurrection of the Lord**

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<b>Easter Vigil Readings 2026 - 4<sup>th</sup> Of April 2026 - During the Holy Saturday Night of Easter - The Resurrection of the Lord</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Genesis 1:1-2:2 Or Genesis 1:1, 26-31A
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 Or Psalms 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20 and 22
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Genesis 22:1-18 Or Genesis 22:1-2, 9A, 10-13, 15-18
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11

3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading	Exodus 14:15-15:1
Responsorial Psalm	Exodus 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18
4 <sup>th</sup> Reading	Isaiah 54:5-14
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13
5 <sup>th</sup> Reading	Isaiah 55:1-11
Responsorial Psalm	Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6
6 <sup>th</sup> Reading	Baruch 3:9-15, 32C4:4
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 19:8, 9, 10, 11
7 <sup>th</sup> Reading	Ezekiel 36:16-17A, 18-28
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4
(When baptism is celebrated on Easter Vigil)	

Isaiah 12:2-3, 4BCD, 5-6 OR Psalms 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19	
(When baptism is not celebrated on Easter Vigil)	
Epistle	Romans 6:3-11
Responsorial Psalm	Psalms 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23
Gospel	Matthew 28:1-10

**1st Reading - Genesis 1:1-2:2**

- 1 In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth,
- 2 And the earth was void and empty, and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the spirit of God moved over the waters.
- 3 Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.
- 4 And God saw the light that it was good; and he divided the light from the darkness.
- 5 And he called the light Day, and the darkness Night, And he called the light Day, and the darkness Night. And there was evening and morning - the first day.

6 And God said: Let there be a firmament made amidst the waters: and let it divide the waters from the waters.

7 And God made a firmament, and divided the waters that were under the firmament, from those that were above the firmament. And it was so.

8 And God called the firmament Heaven.

And the evening and morning were - the second day.

9 God also said: Let the waters that are under the heaven, be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear. And it was so done.

10 And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters, he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

11 And he said: Let the earth bring forth the green herb, and such as may seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after its kind, which may have seed in itself upon the earth. And it was so done.

12 And the earth brought forth the green herb, and such as yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that bears fruit, having seed each one according to its kind.

And God saw that it was good.

13 Evening came, and morning followed - the third day.

14 And God said: Let there be lights made in the firmament of heaven, to divide the day and the night, and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years:

15 To shine in the firmament of heaven, and to give light upon the earth. And it was so done.

16 And God made two great lights: a greater light to rule the day; and a lesser light to rule the night: and the stars.

17 And he set them in the firmament of heaven to shine upon the earth.

18 And to rule the day and the night, and to divide the light and the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

19 Evening came, and morning followed - the fourth day.

20 God also said: Let the waters bring forth the creeping creature having life, and the fowl that may fly over the earth under the firmament of heaven.

21 And God created the great whales, and every living and moving creature, which the waters brought forth, according to their kinds, and every winged fowl according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

22 And he blessed them, saying: Increase and multiply, and fill the waters of the sea; and let the birds be multiplied upon the earth.

23 Evening came, and morning followed - the fifth day.

24 And God said: Let the earth bring forth the living creature in its kind, cattle and creeping things, and beasts of the earth, according to their kinds. And it was so done.

25 And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds, and cattle, and everything that creeps on the earth after its kind. And God saw that it was good.

26 And he said: Let us make man to our image and likeness; and let him have dominion over the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the air, and the beasts, and the whole earth, and every creeping creature that moves upon the earth.

27 And God created man to his own image; to the image of God he created him. Male and female he created them.

28 And God blessed them, saying: Increase and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it, and rule over the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the air, and all living creatures that move upon the earth.

29 And God said: Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed upon the earth, and all trees that have in themselves seed of their own kind, to be your meat:

30 And to all the beasts of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to all that move upon the earth, and wherein there is life, that they may have to feed upon. And it was so done.

31 And God saw all the things that he had made, and they were very good. Evening came, and morning followed - the sixth day.

1 So the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the furniture of them.

2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made: and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had done.

### Or Genesis 1:1, 26-31A

1 In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth,

26 And he said: Let us make man to our image and likeness; and let him have dominion over the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the air, and the beasts, and the whole earth, and every creeping creature that moves upon the earth.

27 And God created man to his own image; to the image of God he created him. Male and female he created them.

28 And God blessed them, saying: Increase and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it, and rule over the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the air, and all living creatures that move upon the earth.

29 And God said: Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed upon the earth, and all trees that have in themselves seed of their own kind, to be your meat:

30 And to all the beasts of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to all that move upon the earth, and wherein there is life, that they may have to feed upon. And it was so done.

31 And God saw all the things that he had made, and they were very good.

### **Responsorial Psalm – Psalms 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35**

R. (30) Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

1 Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD, my God, you are great indeed!

2 You are clothed with majesty and glory, robed in light as with a cloak.

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

5 You fixed the earth upon its foundation, not to be moved forever;

6 with the ocean, as with a garment, you covered it; above the mountains the waters stood.

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

10 You send forth springs into the watercourses that wind among the mountains.

12 Beside them the birds of heaven dwell; from among the branches they send forth their song.

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

13 You water the mountains from your palace; the earth is replete with the fruit of your works.

14 You raise grass for the cattle, and vegetation for man's use, Producing bread from the earth.

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

24 How manifold are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have wrought them all -

the earth is full of your creatures.

35 Bless the LORD, O my soul! Alleluia.

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

### **Or Psalms 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20 and 22**

R. (5b) The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

4 Upright is the word of the LORD, and all his works are trustworthy.

5 He loves justice and right; of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.

R. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

6 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made; by the breath of his mouth all their host.

7 He gathers the waters of the sea as in a flask; in cellars he confines the deep.

R. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

12 Blessed the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he has chosen for his own inheritance.

13 From heaven the LORD looks down; he sees all mankind.

R. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

20 Our soul waits for the LORD, who is our help and our shield.

22 May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us who have put our hope in you.

R. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

### **2nd Reading – Genesis 22:1-18**

1 Sometime afterward, God put Abraham to the test and said to him: Abraham! "Here I am!" he replied.

2 Then God said: Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There offer him up as a burnt offering on one of the heights that I will point out to you.

3 Early the next morning Abraham saddled his donkey, took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac, and after cutting the wood for the burnt offering, set out for the place of which God had told him.

4 On the third day Abraham caught sight of the place from a distance.

5 Abraham said to his servants: "Stay here with the donkey, while the boy and I go on over there. We will worship and then come back to you."

6 So Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, while he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two walked on together,

7 Isaac spoke to his father Abraham. "Father!" he said. "Here I am," he replied.

Isaac continued, "Here are the fire and the wood, but where is the sheep for the burnt offering?"

8 "My son," Abraham answered, "God will provide the sheep for the burnt offering." Then the two walked on together.

9 When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Next he bound his son Isaac, and put him on top of the wood on the altar.

10 Then Abraham reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son.

11 But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am," he answered.

12 "Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the angel. "Do not do the least thing to him. For now I know that you fear God, since you did not withhold from me your son, your only one."

13 Abraham looked up and saw a single ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering in place of his son.

14 Abraham named that place Yahweh-yireh; hence people today say, "On the mountain the Lord will provide."

15 A second time the angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven

16 and said: "I swear by my very self - oracle of the Lord - that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your son, your only one,

17 I will bless you and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants will take possession of the gates of their enemies,

18 and in your descendants all the nations of the earth will find blessing, because you obeyed my command."

### **Or Genesis 22:1-2, 9A, 10-13, 15-18**

1 God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied.

2 Then God said: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you."

9A When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it.

10 Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son.

11 But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am," he answered.

12 "Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son."

13 As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.

15 Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven

16 and said: "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son,

17 I will bless thee, and I will multiply thy seed as the stars of heaven, and as the sand that is by the seashore. Thy seed shall possess the gates of their enemies.

18 And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

## Responsorial Psalm – Psalms 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11

R. (1) You are my inheritance, O Lord.

5 O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup, you it is who hold fast my lot.

8 I set the LORD ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

R. *You are my inheritance, O Lord.*

9 Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices, my body, too, abides in confidence;

10 because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld, nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption.

R. *You are my inheritance, O Lord.*

11 You will show me the path to life, fullness of joys in your presence, the delights at your right hand forever.

R. *You are my inheritance, O Lord.*

## 3rd Reading – Exodus 14:15-15:1

15 The LORD said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Speak to the children of Israel to go forward.

16 But lift up thy rod, and stretch forth thy hand over the sea, and divide it: that the children of Israel may go through the midst of the sea on dry ground.

17 And I will harden the heart of the Egyptians to pursue you: and I will be glorified in Pharaoh, and in all his host, and in his chariots, and in his horsemen.

18 And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord: when I shall be glorified in Pharaoh, and in his chariots and in his horsemen.

19 And the angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, removing, went behind them: and together with him the pillar of the cloud, leaving the forepart,

20 Stood behind, between the Egyptians' camp and the camp of Israel. And it was a dark cloud, and enlightening the night, so that they could not come at one another all the night.

21 And when Moses had stretched forth his hand over the sea, the Lord took it away by a strong and burning wind blowing all the night; and turned it into dry ground: and the water was divided.

22 And the children of Israel went in through the midst of the sea dried up: for the water was as a wall on their right hand and on their left.

23 And the Egyptians pursuing went in after them: and all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots and horsemen through the midst of the sea,

24 And now the morning watch came, and, behold, the Lord, looking upon the Egyptian army through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, slew their host.

25 And overthrew the wheels of the chariots, and they were carried into the deep. And the Egyptians said: Let us flee from Israel; for the Lord fighteth for them against us.

26 And the Lord said to Moses: Stretch forth thy hand over the sea, that the waters may come again upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and horsemen.

27 And when Moses had stretched forth his hand towards the sea, it returned at the first break of day to the former place: and as the Egyptians were fleeing away, the waters came upon them, and the Lord shut them up in the middle of the waves.

28 And the waters returned, and covered the chariots and the horsemen of all the army of Pharaoh, who had come into the sea after them: neither did there so much as one of them remain.

29 But the children of Israel marched through the midst of the sea upon dry land: and the waters were to them as a wall on the right hand and on the left.

30 And the Lord delivered Israel on that day out of the hands of the Egyptians.

31 And they saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea-shore, and the mighty hand that the Lord had used against them. And the people feared the Lord, and they believed the Lord, and Moses his servant.

1 Then Moses and the children of Israel sung this canticle to the Lord: and said: Let us sing to the Lord, for he is gloriously magnified: the horse and the rider he hath thrown into the sea.

### **Responsorial Psalm - Exodus 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18**

R. (1b) Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.

1 I will sing to the LORD, for he is gloriously triumphant; horse and chariot he has cast into the sea.

2 My strength and my courage is the LORD, and he has been my Saviour. He is my God, I praise him; the God of my father, I extol him.

*R. Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.*

3 The LORD is a warrior, LORD is his name!

4 Pharaoh's chariots and army he hurled into the sea; the elite of his officers were submerged in the Red Sea.

*R. Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.*

5 The flood waters covered them, they sank into the depths like a stone.

6 Your right hand, O LORD, magnificent in power, your right hand, O LORD, has shattered the enemy.

*R. Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.*

17 You brought in the people you redeemed and planted them on the mountain of your inheritance the place where you made your seat, O LORD, the sanctuary, LORD, which your hands established.

18 The LORD shall reign forever and ever.

*R. Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.*

### **4th Reading - Isaiah 54:5-14**

5 For your husband is your Maker; the Lord of hosts is his name, Your redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, called God of all the earth.

6 The Lord calls you back, like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit, A wife married in youth and then cast off, says your God.

7 For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with great tenderness I will take you back.

8 In an outburst of wrath, for a moment I hid my face from you; But with enduring love I take pity on you, says the Lord, your redeemer.

9 This is for me like the days of Noah: As I swore then that the waters of Noah should never again flood the earth, So I have sworn now not to be angry with you, or to rebuke you.

10 Though the mountains fall away and the hills be shaken, My love shall never fall away from you nor my covenant of peace be shaken, says the Lord, who has mercy on you.

11 O afflicted one, storm-battered and unconsoled, I lay your pavements in carnelians, your foundations in sapphires;

12 I will make your battlements of rubies, your gates of jewels, and all your walls of precious stones.

13 All your children shall be taught by the Lord; great shall be the peace of your children.

14 In justice shall you be established, far from oppression, you shall not fear, from destruction, it cannot come near.

### **Responsorial Psalm - Psalms 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13**

R. (2a) I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

2 I will extol you, O LORD, for you drew me clear and did not let my enemies rejoice over me.

4 O LORD, you brought me up from the netherworld; you preserved me from among those going down into the pit.

*R. I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.*

5 Sing praise to the LORD, you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.

6 For his anger lasts but a moment; a lifetime, his good will. At nightfall, weeping enters in, but with the dawn, rejoicing.

*R. I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.*

- 11 Hear, O LORD, and have pity on me; O LORD, be my helper.
- 12 You changed my mourning into dancing;
- 13 O LORD, my God, forever will I give you thanks.

*R. I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.*

### **5th Reading - Isaiah 55:1-11**

- 1 All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come, buy grain and eat; Come, buy grain without money, wine and milk without cost!
- 2 Why spend your money for what is not bread; your wages for what does not satisfy? Only listen to me, and you shall eat well, you shall delight in rich fare.
- 3 Pay attention and come to me; listen, that you may have life. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, the steadfast loyalty promised to David.
- 4 As I made him a witness to peoples, a leader and commander of peoples,
- 5 So shall you summon a nation you knew not, and a nation that knew you not shall run to you, Because of the Lord, your God, the Holy One of Israel, who has glorified you.
- 6 Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.
- 7 Let the wicked forsake their way, and sinners their thoughts; Let them turn to the Lord to find mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving.
- 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways - oracle of the Lord.
- 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, my thoughts higher than your thoughts.
- 10 Yet just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down And do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, Giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats,
- 11 So shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; It shall not return to me empty, but shall do what pleases me, achieving the end for which I sent it.

### **Responsorial Psalm - Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6**

*R. (3) You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.*

- 2 God indeed is my Saviour; I am confident and unafraid. My strength and my courage is the LORD, and he has been my Saviour.
- 3 With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation.

*R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.*

- 4 Give thanks to the LORD, acclaim his name; among the nations make known his deeds,  
proclaim how exalted is his name.

*R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.*

- 5 Sing praise to the LORD for his glorious achievement;  
let this be known throughout all the earth.
- 6 Shout with exultation, O city of Zion,  
for great in your midst  
is the Holy One of Israel!

*R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.*

### **6th Reading - Baruch 3:9-15, 32C4:4**

- 9 Hear, O Israel, the commandments of life: listen, and know prudence!
- 10 How is it, Israel, that you are in the land of your foes, grown old in a foreign land,
- 11 defiled with the dead, accounted with those destined for the netherworld?
- 12 You have forsaken the fountain of wisdom!
- 13 Had you walked in the way of God, you would have dwelt in enduring peace.
- 14 Learn where prudence is, where strength, where understanding; that you may know also where are length of days, and life, where light of the eyes, and peace.
- 15 Who has found the place of wisdom, who has entered into her treasuries?
- 32 The One who knows all things knows her; he has probed her by his knowledge The One who established the earth for all time, and filled it with four-footed beasts;
- 33 he who dismisses the light, and it departs, calls it, and it obeys him trembling;
- 34 before whom the stars at their posts shine and rejoice;
- 35 when he calls them, they answer, "Here we are!" shining with joy for their Maker.
- 36 Such is our God; no other is to be compared to him:

37 he has traced out the whole way of understanding, and has given her to Jacob, his servant, to Israel, his beloved son.

38 Since then she has appeared on earth, and moved among people.

1 She is the book of the precepts of God, the law that endures forever; all who cling to her will live, but those will die who forsake her.

2 Turn, O Jacob, and receive her: walk by her light toward splendor.

3 Give not your glory to another, your privileges to an alien race.

4 Blessed are we, O Israel; for what pleases God is known to us!

### **Responsorial Psalm – Psalms 19:8, 9, 10, 11**

R. (John 6:68c) Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

8 The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul; the decree of the LORD is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple.

R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

9 The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the command of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eye.

R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

10 The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true, all of them just.

R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

11 They are more precious than gold, than a heap of purest gold; sweeter also than syrup or honey from the comb.

R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

### **7th Reading – Ezekiel 36:16-17A, 18-28**

16 The word of the LORD came to me, saying:

17 Son of man, when the house of Israel lived in their land, they defiled it by their conduct and deeds.

18 Therefore I poured out my fury upon them because of the blood that they poured out on the ground, and because they defiled it with idols.

19 I scattered them among the nations, dispersing them over foreign lands; according to their conduct and deeds I judged them.

20 But when they came among the nations wherever they came, they served to profane my holy name, because it was said of them: "These are the people of the LORD, yet they had to leave their land."

21 So I have relented because of my holy name which the house of Israel profaned among the nations where they came.

22 Therefore say to the house of Israel: Thus says the Lord GOD: Not for your sakes do I act, house of Israel, but for the sake of my holy name, which you profaned among the nations to which you came.

23 I will prove the holiness of my great name, profaned among the nations, in whose midst you have profaned it. Thus the nations shall know that I am the LORD, says the Lord GOD, when in their sight I prove my holiness through you.

24 For I will take you away from among the nations, gather you from all the foreign lands, and bring you back to your own land.

25 I will sprinkle clean water upon you to cleanse you from all your impurities, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

26 I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you, taking from your bodies your stony hearts and giving you natural hearts.

27 I will put my spirit within you and make you live by my statutes, careful to observe my decrees.

28 You shall live in the land I gave your fathers; you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

### **Responsorial Psalm – Psalms 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4**

When baptism is celebrated on Easter Vigil

R. (42:2) Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul longs for you, my God.

3 Athirst is my soul for God, the living God. When shall I go and behold the face of God?

*R. Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul longs for you, my God.*

5 I went with the throng and led them in procession to the house of God,  
Amid loud cries of joy and thanksgiving, with the multitude keeping festival.

*R. Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul longs for you, my God.*

3 Send forth your light and your fidelity; they shall lead me on  
And bring me to your holy mountain, to your dwelling-place.

*R. Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul longs for you, my God.*

4 Then will I go in to the altar of God, the God of my gladness and joy; then will I  
give you thanks upon the harp, O God, my God!

*R. Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul longs for you, my God.*

### **Or Isaiah 12:2-3, 4BCD, 5-6**

When baptism is not celebrated During Easter Vigil

*R. (3) You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.*

2 God indeed is my Saviour; I am confident and unafraid. My strength and my  
courage is the LORD, and he has been my Saviour.

3 With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation.

*R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.*

4BCD Give thanks to the LORD, acclaim his name; among the nations make known his  
deeds, proclaim how exalted is his name.

*R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.*

5 Sing praise to the LORD for his glorious achievement; let this be known  
throughout all the earth.

6 Shout with exultation, O city of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of  
Israel!

*R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.*

### **Or Psalms 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19**

When baptism is not celebrated During Easter Vigil

*R. (12a) Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

12 A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me.

13 Cast me not out from your presence, and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

*R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

14 Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me.

15 I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners shall return to you.

*R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

18 For you are not pleased with sacrifices; should I offer a holocaust, you would not  
accept it.

19 My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit; a heart contrite and humbled, O God, you  
will not spurn.

*R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

### **Epistle - Romans 6:3-11**

3 Or are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized  
into his death?

4 We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ  
was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of  
life.

5 For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be  
united with him in the resurrection.

6 We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin.

7 For a dead person has been absolved from sin.

8 If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him.

9 We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

10 As to his death, he died to sin once and for all; as to his life, he lives for God.

11 Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as [being] dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus.

### **Responsorial Psalm – Psalms 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23**

*R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.

2 Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever."

*R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

16 The right hand of the LORD has struck with power; the right hand of the LORD is exalted.

17 I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.

*R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

22 The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

23 By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes.

*R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

### **Gospel – Matthew 28:1-10**

1 After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb.

2 And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, approached, rolled back the stone, and sat upon it.

3 His appearance was like lightning and his clothing was white as snow.

4 The guards were shaken with fear of him and became like dead men.

5 Then the angel said to the women in reply, "Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified.

6 He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.

7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him.' Behold, I have told you."

8 Then they went away quickly from the tomb, fearful yet overjoyed, and ran to announce this to his disciples.

9 And behold, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them. They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage.

10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

**Saint(s) of the Day**

St Isidore of Seville Biography



St Isidore of Seville - Feast Day - The 4<sup>th</sup> Of April 2026

Date of Birth	560 AD
Place of Birth	Cartagena, Spain
Profession	Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor of the Church
Place of Work	Spain
Date of Death	April 4 636
Place of Death	Seville, Spain
Feast Day	4 <sup>th</sup> Of April
Canonization	By Pope Clement VIII in 1598, Rome
Patron Saint of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Internet</li> <li>▪ Computer users</li> </ul>

St Isidore of Seville Biography

- Computer technicians
- Programmers
- Students

**Saint Isidore of Seville Life History**

Isidore's birthplace was Cartagena, Spain, which was once a Carthaginian colony. He was born to Severianus and Theodora, both of whom came from prestigious Hispano-Roman families of considerable social standing. They were part of a powerful family that played a key role in the political and religious strategy that persuaded the Visigothic monarchs to abandon Arianism and embrace Catholicism.

Isidore had siblings who were also involved in the religious hierarchy. His older brother, Leander of Seville, held the position of Archbishop of Seville before Isidore and during his tenure, he was known for his opposition to King Liuvigild.

Fulgentius, Isidore's younger brother, served as the Bishop of Astigi at the beginning of the reign of the Catholic King Reccared. Isidore's sister, Florentina of Cartagena, was a nun. Leander was probably regarded as a sacred person in certain aspects, however, his method of teaching his younger brother Isidore raised concerns among many people, even at that time. Although Isidore was capable and hardworking, Leander, who was much older, chose to use a teaching approach that depended on force and punishment. It is challenging to understand why Leander thought that mistreatment rather than tolerance would be an efficient way of instructing Isidore, especially considering Isidore's subsequent accomplishments. On a certain day, the young boy reached a breaking point. He was feeling frustrated because he couldn't learn as quickly as his brother expected him to, and also because his brother was treating him badly. Due to this, Isidore decided to run away. However, even though he was able to escape from his brother's harsh words and actions, he couldn't escape from the feelings of failure and rejection that haunted him. As he sat down, he noticed drops of water falling on a rock nearby. Even though the drops appeared to have no force and didn't seem to affect the rock, Isidore saw that they had gradually worn holes in the solid stone over time. Isidore realized that if he persevered in his studies, even small efforts would eventually lead to significant learning. Perhaps he also harboured the hope that his efforts would eventually soften his brother's heart.

However, upon returning home, Isidore's brother was so frustrated with him that he confined him to a cell, likely in a monastery, to continue his studies. His brother did not believe that Isidore would not run away again.

Isidore's passion for learning inspired him to advocate for the creation of a seminary in every diocese in Spain. What made his proposal unique was that he insisted that all areas of knowledge, including the arts and medicine, should be taught in these seminaries. His book, the Etymologies, became a widely-used textbook for over nine centuries, providing readers with a comprehensive compilation of knowledge. In addition to this work, Isidore also authored books on grammar, astronomy, geography, history, biography, and theology. Spain was well ahead of the game when it came to studying Aristotle, thanks to Isidore's open-mindedness. Even before the Arabs reintroduced Aristotle to European students, Isidore had already reintroduced the philosopher to students in Spain. When Isidore's brother Leander of Seville died on either 13<sup>th</sup> Of March, 600 or 601, Isidore took over as the Archbishop of Seville. As soon as he assumed this position, he made it his priority to safeguard the interests of monks and took on the role of their protector. Isidore aimed to unite the people and subcultures of the Visigothic kingdom into one nation, understanding that the well-being of his constituents relied on the amalgamation of remaining Roman and ruling barbarian cultures. To achieve this, he employed all available religious resources and was successful in eradicating the Arianism heresy and thwarting the new Acephali heresy from taking root. Isidore also reinforced religious discipline throughout his jurisdiction as Archbishop. Isidore led the Second Council of Seville, which commenced on the 13<sup>th</sup> Of November, 619 during the reign of King Sisebut. The council was attended by eight other bishops, all of whom were from the ecclesiastical province of Baetica in southern Spain. After serving as the archbishop of Seville for over

32 Years, St. Isidore died on the 4<sup>th</sup> Of April 636 AD. Isidore's contributions to the church and education did not go unnoticed. He was canonized by Pope Clement VIII in 1598, and in 1722, Pope Innocent XIII declared him a doctor of the church. In more recent times, Isidore has been proposed as the patron saint of Internet users due to his dedication to using accumulated knowledge for the glory of God. Isidore's determination to make knowledge accessible to all and to use it in the service of God's work is seen as an inspiration for those who seek to use the internet as a tool for learning and spreading the Gospel.

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Readings 2026 Homily - For 4<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Today's 4<sup>th</sup> Of April 2026, Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass Readings Homily Theme: The Saviour Has Died, He Rests in The Tomb

Mass Times For the weekend:

Saturday Night Mass Times	
Saint Josephs	5:30pm

Sunday Mass Times	
Saint Joseph's	9:30am
Saint Anne's & Holy Family	11:00 am
Saint Patrick's Ryhope	9:30 am

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