

St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral, Dublin

**HOLY SATURDAY**  
**The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night**

**LUCERNARIUM**

Dear brothers and sisters, on this most sacred night, in which our Lord Jesus Christ passed over from death to life, the Church calls upon her sons and daughters, scattered throughout the world, to come together to watch and pray. If we keep the memorial of the Lord's paschal solemnity in this way, listening to his word and celebrating his mysteries, then we shall have the sure hope of sharing his triumph over death and living with him in God.

**PREPARATION OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE**

*The celebrant marks the Paschal Candle:*

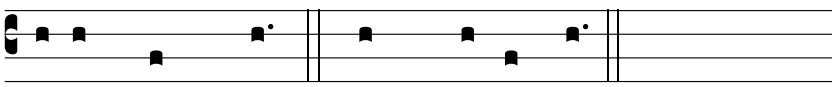
Christ yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End  
the Alpha and the Omega. All time belongs to him and all the ages.  
To him be glory and power through every age and for ever. Amen

*The Celebrant inserts five grains of incense in the candle in the form of a cross, saying:*

By his holy  
and glorious wounds  
may Christ the Lord  
guard us  
and protect us. Amen

*The Celebrant lights the Paschal candle, with a flame taken from the sanctuary lamp beside the Blessed Sacrament saying:*

May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

  
The light of Christ: Thanks be to God.

## EXULTET

Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven, exult, let Angel ministers of God exult, let the trumpet of salvation sound aloud our mighty King's triumph! Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King, let all corners of the earth be glad, knowing an end to gloom and darkness. Rejoice, let Mother Church also rejoice, arrayed with the lightning of his glory, let this holy building shake with joy, filled with the mighty voices of the peoples. It is truly right and just, with ardent love of mind and heart and with devoted service of our voice, to acclaim our God invisible, the almighty Father, and Jesus Christ, our Lord, his Son, his Only Begotten. Who for our sake paid Adam's debt to the eternal Father, and, pouring out his own dear Blood, wiped clean the record of our ancient sinfulness. These then are the feasts of Passover, in which is slain the Lamb, the one true Lamb, whose Blood anoints the doorposts of believers. This is the night, when once you led our forebears, Israel's children, from slavery in Egypt and made them pass dry-shod through the Red Sea. This is the night that with a pillar of fire banished the darkness of sin. This is the night that even now, throughout the world, sets Christian believers apart from worldly vices and from the gloom of sin, leading them to grace and joining them to his holy ones.

This is the night, when Christ broke the prison-bars of death and rose victorious from the underworld. O wonder of your humble care for us! O love, O charity beyond all telling, to ransom a slave you gave away your Son! O truly necessary sin of Adam, destroyed completely by the Death of Christ! O happy fault that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer! The sanctifying power of this night dispels wickedness, washes faults away, restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to mourners. O truly blessed night, when things of heaven are wed to those of earth, and divine to the human. On this, your night of grace, O holy Father, accept this candle, a solemn offering, the work of bees and of your servants' hands, an evening sacrifice of praise, this gift from your most holy Church. Therefore, O Lord, we pray you that this candle, hallowed to the honour of your name, may persevere undimmed, to overcome the darkness of this night. Receive it as a pleasing fragrance, and let it mingle with the lights of heaven. May this flame be found still burning by the Morning Star: the one Morning Star who never sets, Christ your Son, who, coming back from death's domain, has shed his peaceful light on humanity, and lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**Amen**

*We extinguish our candles*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD



1. Bless the Lord, my soul!  
Lord God, how great you are,  
clothed in majesty and glory,  
wrapped in light as in a robe!
  
2. You founded the earth on its base,  
to stand firm from age to age.  
You wrapped it with the ocean like a cloak:  
the waters stood higher than the mountains.
  
3. You make springs gush forth in the valleys:  
they flow in between the hills.  
On their banks dwell the birds of heaven;  
from the branches they sing their song.

### **Collect**

Almighty ever-living God, who are wonderful in the ordering of all your works, may those you have redeemed understand that there exists nothing more marvelous than the world's creation in the beginning except that, at the end of the ages, Christ our Passover has been sacrificed. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

### **Third Reading**

*Ex 14:15–15:1*

The Lord said to Moses, 'Why do you cry to me so? Tell sons of Israel to march on. For yourself, raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and part it for the sons of Israel to walk through the sea on dry ground. I for my part will make the heart of the Egyptians so stubborn that they will follow them.

So shall I win myself glory at the expense of Pharaoh, of all his army, his chariots, his horsemen. And when I have won glory for myself, at the expense of Pharaoh and his chariots and his army, the Egyptians will learn that I am the Lord.'

Then the angel of the Lord, who marched at the front of the army of Israel, changed station and moved to their rear. The pillar of cloud changed station from the front to the rear of them, and remained there. It came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. The cloud was dark, and the night passed without the armies drawing any closer the whole night long. Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove back the sea with a strong easterly wind all night, and he made dry land of the sea. The waters parted and the sons of Israel went on dry ground right into the sea, walls of water to right and to left of them. The Egyptians gave chase: after them they went, right into the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

In the morning watch, the Lord looked down on the army of the Egyptians from the pillar of fire and of cloud, and threw the army into confusion. He so clogged their chariot wheels that they could scarcely make headway. 'Let us flee from the Israelites,' the Egyptians cried 'the Lord is fighting for them against the Egyptians!' 'Stretch out your hand over the sea,' the Lord said to Moses 'that the waters may flow back on the Egyptians and their chariots and their horsemen.' Moses stretched out his hand over the sea and, as day broke, the sea returned to its bed. The fleeing Egyptians marched right into it, and the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the very middle of the sea.

The returning waters overwhelmed the chariots and the horsemen of Pharaoh's whole army, which had followed the Israelites into the sea; not a single one of them was left. But the sons of Israel had marched through the sea on dry ground, walls of water to right and to left of them. That day, the Lord rescued Israel from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. Israel witnessed the great act that the Lord had performed against the Egyptians, and the people venerated the Lord; they put their faith in the Lord and in Moses, his servant. It was then that Moses and the sons of Israel sang this song in honour of the Lord:

### Responsorial Psalm

*Ex 15:1-6.17-18*



1. I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph!  
Horse and rider he has thrown into the sea!  
The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation.  
This is my God and I extol him,  
my father's God and I give him praise.
2. The Lord is a warrior! The Lord is his name.  
The chariots of Pharaoh he hurled into the sea,  
the flower of his army is drowned in the sea.  
The deeps hide them; they sank like a stone.
3. Your right hand, Lord, glorious in its power,  
your right hand, Lord, has shattered the enemy.  
In the greatness of your glory you crushed the foe.

### COLLECT

O God, who by the light of the New Testament have unlocked the meaning of wonders worked in former times, so that the Red Sea prefigures the sacred font and the nation

delivered from slavery foreshadows the Christian people, grant, we pray, that all nations, obtaining the privilege of Israel by merit of faith, may be reborn by partaking of your Spirit. Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Seventh Reading**

*Ezk 36:16-28*

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows:

‘Son of man, the members of the House of Israel used to live in their own land, but they defiled it by their conduct and actions. I then discharged my fury at them because of the blood they shed in their land and the idols with which they defiled it. I scattered them among the nations and dispersed them in foreign countries. I sentenced them as their conduct and actions deserved. And now they have profaned my holy name among the nations where they have gone, so that people say of them, “These are the people of the Lord; they have been exiled from his land.” But I have been concerned about my holy name, which the House of Israel has profaned among the nations where they have gone.

And so, say to the House of Israel,

“The Lord says this: I am not doing this for your sake, House of Israel, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone. I mean to display the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned among them. And the nations will learn that I am the Lord – it is the Lord who speaks – when I display my holiness for your sake before their eyes.

Then I am going to take you from among the nations and gather you together from all the foreign countries, and bring you home to your own land. I shall pour clean water over you and you will be cleansed; I shall cleanse you of all your defilement and all your idols. I shall give you a new heart, and put a new spirit in you; I shall remove the heart of stone from your bodies and give you a heart of flesh instead.

I shall put my spirit in you, and make you keep my laws and sincerely respect my observances. You will live in the land which I gave your ancestors. You shall be my people and I will be your God.” ’

The word of the Lord

**Responsorial Psalm (Ps 41:3.5; 42:3.4)**



1. My soul is thirsting for God,  
the God of my life;  
when can I enter and see  
the face of God?
2. These things will I remember  
as I pour out my soul:  
how I would lead the rejoicing crowd  
into the house of God,  
amid cries of gladness and thanksgiving,  
the throng wild with joy.
3. O send forth your light and your truth;  
let these be my guide.  
Let them bring me to your holy mountain  
to the place where you dwell.

**COLLECT**

O God of unchanging power and eternal light, look with favour on the wondrous mystery of the whole Church and serenely accomplish the work of human salvation, which you planned from all eternity; may the whole world know and see that what was cast down is raised up, what had become old is made new, and all things are restored to integrity through Christ, just as by him they came into being. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*The Gloria is intoned.*

**Gloria in excelsis Deo...**

*The altar candles are lit from the Paschal candle. Bells are rung and the organ plays festively.  
The choir sings:*

Gloria :                      Missa Brevis (Spatzenmesse)                      W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)

## COLLECT

O God, who make this most sacred night radiant with the glory of the Lord's Resurrection, stir up in your Church a spirit of adoption, so that, renewed in body and mind, we may render you undivided service. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## The Epistle

*Romans 6:3-11*

*Sliocht as litir Naomh Pól chuig na Rómhánaigh*

An é nach dtuigeann sibh, gach duine againn a baisteadh in Íosa Críost, gur ina bhás a baisteadh é. Go deimhin comhadhlacadh sinn sa bhás leis tríd an mbaisteadh I dtreo go siúlóimisne freisin i mbeatha úrnua, faoi mar a tógadh Críost ó mhairbh trí ghlóir an Athar.

Mar má táimid aontaithe leis trí mhacasamhail a bháis beimid aontaithe leis freisin trí mhacasamhail a aiséirí. Tá a fhios againn é seo, gur comhchéasadh ár seannádúr mar aon leis ar an gcrois d'fhonn ár gcolainn pheacúil a chur ó rath, i dtreo nach mbeimis ag seirbhís don pheaca níos mó. Mar an té atá tar éis bháis, tá sé saor ón bpeaca.

Ach má fuaireamar bás mar aon le Críost, creidimid go mbeimid beo mar aon leis chomh maith. Tá a fhios againn ó tógadh Críost ó mhairbh nach bhfaighidh sé bás níos mó. Níl aon cheannas ag an mbás air feasta, mar an bás a fuair sé, ba bhás mar leis an bpeaca é, don aon uair amháin go deo, ach is beatha do Dhia a bheatha feasta. Ar an gcuma chéanna ní mór daoibhse a mheas gur daoine sibh chomh maith atá marbh don pheaca agus beo do Dhia in Íosa Críost.

Briathar an Tiarna

## **Buíochas le Dia.**

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.*

*When we were baptized in Christ Jesus we were baptized in his death; in other words, when we were baptized we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life. If in union with Christ we have imitated his death, we shall also imitate him in his resurrection.*


*We must realise that our former selves have been crucified with him to destroy this sinful body and to free us from the slavery of sin. When a man dies, of course, he has finished with sin. But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him*



any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

The Easter Alleluia is intoned three times

8.



**A** L-le- lu- ia.

### Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 117:1-2.16-17.22-23*

VI



**A** L-le-lúia, \* al-le-lú-ia, al-lelú-ia.

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love has no end.  
Let the sons of Israel say:  
'His love has no end.'
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me up.  
I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount his deeds.
3. The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes.

### GOSPEL:

*Mark 16:1-7*

When the sabbath was over, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices with which to go and anoint him. And very early in the morning on the first day of the week they went to the tomb, just as the sun was rising. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' But when they looked they could see that the stone – which was very big – had already been rolled back. On entering the tomb they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right-hand side, and they were struck with amazement. But he said to them, 'There is no need for alarm. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified: he has risen, he is not here. See, here is the place where they laid him. But



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

**All: I do.**

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

**All: I do.**

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?

**All: I do.**

*And he concludes:*

And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life.

**Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory:                      Sicut cervus                                      *G.P. da Palestrina (1525-1594)*

*Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum, ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.*

*As the deer yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God.*

*Psalm 42:1*

### Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, we ask, O Lord, the prayers of your people with the sacrificial offerings, that what has begun in the paschal mysteries may, by the working of your power, bring us to the healing of eternity. Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### Preface of Easter

Sanctus: Missa Brevis (Spatzenmesse)

W.A. Mozart

Memorial acclamation



When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we pro - claim your death, O

Lord: un - til you come a - gain, un - til you come a - gain.

## THE COMMUNION RITE

Agnus Dei: Missa Brevis (Spatzenmesse)

W.A. Mozart

**Prayer of Spiritual Communion**

Communion: O Filii et Filiae

*Trad. French*

**Post-Communion Prayer**

Pour out on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love, and in your kindness make those you have nourished by this paschal Sacrament one in mind and heart. Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## SOLEMN BLESSING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit**

Celebrant: May almighty God bless you through today's Easter Solemnity and, in his compassion, defend you from every assault of sin.  
**Amen.**

Celebrant: And may he, who restores you to eternal life in the Resurrection of his Only Begotten, endow you with the prize of immortality.

**Amen.**

Celebrant: Now that the days of the Lord's Passion have drawn to a close, may you who celebrate the gladness of the Paschal Feast come with Christ's help, and exulting in spirit, to those feasts that are celebrated in eternal joy.

**Amen.**

Celebrant: And may the blessing of almighty God, the ✠ Father, and the ✠ Son, and the Holy ✠ Spirit come down on you and remain with you for ever.

**Amen.**

### Dismissal:

Go forth in peace, Alleluia, Alleluia!



Thanks be to God, alle-lu-ia, alle- lu- ia.

After dismissal: Hallelujah Chorus

*G.F. Händel (1685-1759)*

Organ voluntary: Incantation pour un jour saint

*Jean Langlais (1907-1991)*