

EASTER LITURGY

General Instructions

1. The Church and premises are to be decorated duly for the celebration of Easter.
2. The Exchange of Peace shall be done at the place specially prepared for that or at the bema. However, the procession is to be done.
3. This service is traditionally being done at 3 am Sunday; but shall be done at other times as well, according to local situation.

C: Celebrant

S – Server

A - Assembly

ENTRANCE HYMN

Congregation stands

C: As our Lord commanded
On the feast of Passover
Let us gather in his holy name
In unity, let us offer this sacrifice

A: Let us be reconciled
And prepare a new altar
With the love of the Lord Jesus
Let us offer this Qurbana

C: Glory to God in the highest (3 times)

A: Amen

C: Peace and hope to people on earth always
and forever

A: Amen

C: Our Father (continues with community) who
art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy
kingdom come. Holy, Holy, thou art Holy.

Our Father who art in heaven, heaven and
earth are full of thy glory. Angels and men
sing out thy glory, "Holy, Holy, thou art Holy."

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be
thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be
done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from the evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

S: Let us pray, Peace be with us.

C: Jesus, eternal king, we bless your unending mercy in granting us life by conquering death. We thank you for bringing us together to celebrate your resurrection and to cherish its graces. Save us from the darkness of ignorance and free us from the bondage of sin, so we may enter into the glory of your resurrection. Help us to worthily celebrate these holy mysteries. Lord of all forever.

A: Amen

PSALMODY
PS. 46,47,48

C: The Lord of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our refuge.

A: Oh, Risen Lord
We rejoice in your resurrection.

C: Clap your hands, all peoples!
Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

- A: Sing praises to God,
Sing praises!
- C: Sing praises to our King,
Sing praises!
- A: For God is the king of all the earth;
Sing praises with a psalm!
- C: God reigns over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.
- A: Great is the LORD
And greatly to be praised in the city of our
God!
- C: Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the
Holy Spirit.
- A: From the eternity and forever. Amen
- C: Oh, Risen Lord
We rejoice in your resurrection.
- S: Halleluiah, Halleluiah, Halleluiah
- S: Let us pray, Peace be with us.
- C: Lord the savior of the world, let your peace
fill the earth. Strengthen your church by
your cross and preserve her children in your
grace. May we be offer your praise, honor,
and thanksgiving in all times. Lord of all,
forever.
- A: Amen

PROCESSION

Now the Procession and solemn Entrance into the Church takes place, if the opening part of the service was done outside the church. As the celebrant comes near the main entrance he sings the following psalm.

C: O gates, lift high your heads;
O eternal gates, open;
The glorious King is entering
The luminous King is entering.

The celebrant taps at the closed door with the pedestal of the Cross.

From inside the Church

Who is this King of Glory?
Who is this King of Light?

The celebrant taps the second time

Those who stand outside

It is the majestic and mighty Lord!

The celebrant taps the third time

The door is opened and the celebrant with servers followed by the community process inside.

Hymns are sung during procession

Congregation stands

HYMN OF EASTER

congregation prays in two groups

- 1: *I shall offer you peace*
Oh people of our God, be in peace
Messiah is risen in peace.
- 2: *A light is dawn for the righteous*
The eternal light has come in the heavens
The Son of God, the true light.
- 1: *Joy and jubilation on earth*
The creation rejoices in the resurrection
We are reconciled in the resurrection of the
Lord.
- 2: *Now and forever*
The Lord provides forgiveness of our sins
And life for death in his resurrection.
- 1: *For ever and ever*
Satan weeps in sorrow
The Church rejoices.
- 2: *To receive his power*
He has risen from the tomb
And brings peace upon the creatures.
- 1: *Praise the Lord our king*
Sing praises to the king our Messiah
He has brought salvation to peoples.
- 2: *Come, let us rejoice in him*
This is the great feast of the Church
Receive the unity the Lord provides.

Celebrant blesses the incense

C: *Oh Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, may this incense that we offer to your glory be blessed. May this please you for the remission of the sins of your flock. Forever,*

S: *Amen.*

S: Peace be with us.

C: Lord our God, when the sweet fragrance of Your love wafts over us, and when our souls are enlightened with the knowledge of Your truth, may we be found worthy to receive Your beloved Son as He appears from the heaven. May we also glorify You and praise You unceasingly in Your Church, crowned like a spouse with every goodness and grace. For You are the Lord and Creator of all forever and ever.

A: Amen

HYMN OF RESURRECTION

A: Lord of all we bow and praise you.
Jesus Christ, we glorify You
For You give man glorious resurrection
And You are the one who saves his soul.

S: Let us pray, Peace be with us.

C: My Lord, You are truly the One who raises our bodies. You are the savior of our souls,

and the preserver of our lives. We are bound always to thank, adore, and glorify You. The Lord of all, forever.

A: Amen

TRISAGION

S: Brothers and sisters, raise your voices and glorify the living God.

A: Holy God,
Holy Mighty One,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy on us.

S: Let us pray, Peace be with us.

C: Glorious, mighty, immortal, and holy God, You are pleased to dwell in the holy ones. We beseech You. Look upon us, pardon us, and show us compassion according to Your nature. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Lord of all, forever.

A: Amen

READINGS

First and second readings are read from the podium kept on the left side of the celebrant

S: Brothers and sisters, please be seated and listen attentively.

Congregation sits

FIRST READING
ISAIAH 60:01-07

S: A reading from the book of Isaiah.

S: Bless me my Lord

bowing to the celebrant

C: May God bless + you.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes round about, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far, and your daughters shall be carried in the arms. Then you shall see and be radiant, your heart shall thrill and rejoice; because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Mid'ian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD. All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you, the

rams of Nebai'oth shall minister to you; they shall come up with acceptance on my altar, and I will glorify my glorious house.

A: Praise be to the Lord, our God

**SECOND READING:
1 SAMUEL 02: 01-10**

S: A reading from the first book of Samuel.

S: Bless me my Lord

bowing to the celebrant

C: May God bless + you.

Hannah also prayed and said, “My heart exults in the LORD; my strength is exalted in the LORD. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in thy salvation. “There is none holy like the LORD, there is none besides thee; there is no rock like our God. Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth; for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength. Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry have ceased to hunger. The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children

is forlorn. The LORD kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. The LORD makes poor and makes rich; he brings low, he also exalts. He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the LORD'S, and on them he has set the world. "He will guard the feet of his faithful ones; but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness; for not by might shall a man prevail. The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; against them he will thunder in heaven. The LORD will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king, and exalt the power of his anointed."

A: Praise be to the Lord, our God

HYMN OF PRAISE

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C: Lord our God, illumine our hearts and minds to hear and understand the sweet voice of your life-giving and divine commandments. In your mercy and grace, grant that they bear in us the fruits of love, hope, and salvation beneficial to our body and soul and that we may constantly praise You. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Lord of all, forever

A: Amen

EPISTLE
ROMANS 05:20-06:23

Epistle (third reading) is read from the podium kept on the right side of the celebrant

S: A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

S: Bless me my Lord

bowing to the celebrant

C: May Christ bless + you.

Law came in, to increase the trespass; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know

that our old self was crucified with him so that the sinful body might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For he who has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. For we know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. Do not yield your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but yield yourselves to God as men who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you yield yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, and, having been set free from

sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once yielded your members to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now yield your members to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. But then what return did you get from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the return you get is sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A: Praise be to Christ, our Lord

Congregation stands

HYMN OF HALLELUIAH

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Celebrant goes to the altar and carries the Gospel to the bema in procession

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 28: 01-06

S: Let us stand and listen attentively to the Holy Gospel

C: Peace be with you.

A: With you and with your spirit.

C: The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ as announced by St. Matthew.

A: Glory to you Christ, our Lord.

Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the sepulcher. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone, and sat upon it. His appearance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has risen, as he said.

celebrant acclaims in loud voice
and congregation responds

C: **Christ is risen from the dead** (3 times)

A: **Halleluiah, Halleluiah, Halleluiah** (3 times)

The celebrant unveils the image of
the resurrected Lord. The servers
ring the bells. The congregation

bows in respect. The celebrant incenses the image.

Procession for the RITE OF PEACE begins. This rite could be done at a special table/place prepared outside the church or at bema (table of the Word). Server bearing the Word of God accompanied by two candle bearers leads the procession. The celebrant carries the image at the end of the procession with two candle bearers.

Hymns are sung during procession

RITE OF PEACE

S: Let us pray, Peace be with you.

C: Lord our God, we bless you for the salvation accomplished through your son for the renewal of our frail nature. We offer you praise and honor, thanksgiving and adoration for this ineffable gift. Lord of all, forever.

A: Amen.

PSALM 97

C: The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice;
Let the many coastlands be glad!
Halleluiah, Halleluiah, Halleluiah

- A: (canona) Oh, the glorified race of Adam,
Rejoice in in the resurrected Lord.
- C: Clouds and thick darkness are round about
him;
Righteousness and justice are the foundation
of his throne.
- A: Fire goes before him,
And burns up his adversaries round about.
- C: His lightning lightens the world;
The earth sees and trembles.
- A: The mountains melt like wax before the
LORD,
Before the Lord of all the earth.
- C: The heavens proclaim his righteousness;
And all the peoples behold his glory.
- A: All worshipers of images are put to shame,
Who make their boast in worthless idols;
All gods bow down before him.
- C: Zion hears and is glad,
And the daughters of Judah rejoice,
- A: Because of thy judgments, O God.
For thou, O LORD, art most high over all the
earth;
Thou art exalted far above all gods.

- C:** The LORD loves those who hate evil;
He preserves the lives of his saints;
He delivers them from the hand of the
wicked.
- A:** Light dawns for the righteous,
And joy for the upright in heart.
- C:** Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,
And give thanks to his holy name!
- A:** The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice;
Let the many coastlands be glad!
Halleluiah, Halleluiah, Halleluiah
- C:** Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the
Holy Spirit.
- A:** From the eternity and forever. Amen.
- C:** (*canona*) Oh, the glorified race of Adam,
Rejoice in in the resurrected Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE

congregation sings / prays in two
groups

- 1:** The Son of the almighty is risen
There is great joy everywhere.
- 2:** The gates of heaven is open
The great divine light is shining.

- 1: He came in search of man
He gave peace to all men.
- 2: Praise be to his holy name
May we granted the gift of heaven.

The celebrant and servers kiss/
venerate the image of the
resurrected Lord. They exchange
PEACE and the congregation
follows the Rite of Peace.

The following greeting is used for
the Exchange of Peace.

one who gives peace:

Peace of the Lord be with you

one who receives peace:

And also with you.

OR

one who gives peace:

Christ is risen

one who receives peace:

Indeed, He is risen.

PRAYERS OF BLESSING

- C: Lord, bless your holy people and flourish
your peace in them.

S: Bless us, O Lord.

C: Lord, bless and sanctify in your peace your holy Church and shower your peace upon her. Bless and protect our Holy Father Pope Mar ----, the head of the universal Church, our Major Archbishop Mar ----, the father and head of our Church, our Bishop Mar ----, the father and head of our diocese, and all other bishops, to guide the church in your peace.

A: Amen.

C: Lord, bless and sanctify in your peace your priests, religious, deacons, servers, and missionaries all over the world.

A: Amen.

C: Lord, bless and sanctify in your peace our grandparents, parents, youth, children and other family members.

A: Amen.

C: Lord, bless and sanctify in your peace our nation's leaders, teachers, students and those who serve the sick and work for social justice.

A: Amen.

C: Lord, bless and sanctify in your peace the poor and rich, farmers and workers, traders and entrepreneurs.

A: Amen.

C: Lord, bless and sanctify in your peace the sick and afflicted, the poor and oppressed, the suffering and outcast.

A: Amen.

C: Lord, bless and sanctify in your peace all that are living in this universe.

A: Amen.

other prayers could be added

C: Lord, bless all Christians to celebrate our faith in unity.

A: Amen.

C: Lord, the king of peace, make us worthy to rejoice on the day of resurrection when all parables, similies, and mysteries will be revealed. Strengthen us to be partakers with you and to offer praise and thanksgiving to your Father and Holy Spirit. May your peace flourish in our community and all congregations gathered in your name. Lord of all, forever.

A: Amen.

The image of the resurrected Lord
is taken to a decorated table

HOMILY

Congregation sits

KARUZUTHA

Congregation stands

S: Let us pray in joy and exultation, “Lord, have mercy on us.”

A: Lord, have mercy on us.

S: Lord the prince of peace and king of heaven and earth, make us worthy to celebrate the peace of your resurrection.

A: Lord, have mercy on us.

S: Lord you who said, “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you,” make us worthy to celebrate the peace of your resurrection.

A: Lord, have mercy on us.

S: Lord, you who resurrected from the tomb and filled the earth in eternal peace, help us to share the joy of your resurrection.

A: Lord, have mercy on us.

S: Lord, you who enrich us in your peace, help us to know and live out your peace in our daily afflictions and struggles.

A: Lord, have mercy on us.

S: Lord, we pray for the wellbeing of our Pope, Major Archbishop, Archbishops, bishops and their fellow ministers.

A: Lord, have mercy on us.

S: Let us commend ourselves and one another to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

A: Lord our God, we commend ourselves to you.

C: Lord our God, save us through your grace, and may your peace flourish in our midst. Have mercy on us and draw us to the fullness of the mystery of your resurrection. Make us worthy to live in unity and rejoice in your peace and tranquility. The Lord of all, forever.

A: Amen

The Qurbana continues with Prayers of Imposition of Hands

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HYMN OF MYSTERIES

We glorify you, O Lord our King

Lord, our Church your spouse, rejoices like an adorned bride and a joyful mother because you resurrected from among the

dead. Your resurrection grants us life and glory. Lord make us worthy to participate in the mysteries of your death and resurrection.

The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone

Lord, our Church your spouse, rejoices like an adorned bride and a joyful mother because you resurrected from among the dead. Your resurrection grants us life and glory. Lord make us worthy to participate in the mysteries of your death and resurrection.

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HYMN OF EUCHARISTIC PRAISE

A: Jesus the savior of the world has resurrected from the dead. Behold, He is seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. The Lord has given us his body and blood. Let us receive these mysteries of his death and resurrection. Let us praise him by singing 'holy, holy, holy.'

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COMMUNION INVITATION

S: Come, people of God, let us praise the Lord. He has conquered death and defeated satan thereby granting us eternal life. Let us sing

‘holy, holy, and holy’ to him who nourishes us with his body and blood. Our tongues are unworthy to offer him due thanks. The curse of death is vanished from the midst of humankind. Behold, the mysteries of the eternal life is prepared for us. Come, oh brothers and sisters, let us receive these mysteries in reverence.

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THANKSGIVING PRAYERS

C: Lord our God, may these mysteries that we received be the promise of our resurrection. May we be able to praise you with the just in heaven for the glory of resurrection. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Lord of all, forever.

A: Amen. Bless us, Lord.

C: Jesus, the hope of mankind, you made us partakers of the mystery of resurrection through this Qurbana. We your Church, redeemed by your precious blood praise your mercy forever. May the gift from above be blessed forever. The Lord of all, forever.

A: Amen.

PRAYER OF SEALING

C: May the Lord, who made the earth rejoice in his resurrection, be blessed. He has defeated the power of satan and death and has delivered us from our sins and debts. May the peace of the resurrected Lord be with us forever. May he grant us the freedom of the children of God. May he bless us to grow in faith and proclaim the good news of resurrection, according to his promise, “those who believe in me will live forever.” May the whole world receive new life from the resurrection of our Lord. Oh people of God, may he bring you who are nourished with the life giving mysteries, to the glory of heaven. Now, always and forever.

A: Amen

FAREWELL PRAYER

Praise to you, Altar of sanctification. Praise to you, the sepulcher of our Lord. May the holy qurbana that I have received from you, be for me unto the forgiveness of my debts and the remission of my sins. I know not, whether I shall come again to offer another sacrifice.