

Easter

On our table

a candle

We light the candle and say:
Christ our light!
Thanks be to God

We pray

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.

We recall

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (28:1-10)

... the angel spoke; and said to the women. "There is no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here he is risen, as he said he would. ... now he is going before you to Galilee;'

We reflect

- That God was with Jesus in life, in death and into new life
- That Jesus can inspire in us a new sense of hope
- About how the light from the smallest candle transforms darkness
- About the angels of hope and blessing in our own lives
- About our experience of light in times of darkness

We carry in our hearts

- Confidence that even in the midst of the suffering times God is with us and that hope will dawn

- Confidence that Jesus is always with us, urging us on, encouraging us not to be afraid.

We pray

On this holiest of days, we pray
For our Church leaders.
That the Easter message will encourage in them s people of the life and light.
We pray to the Lord.

For our world leaders.
That this time of renewal will encourage them in their acts of justice and mercy.
We pray to the Lord.

For the people of God at Easter:
That in the midst of a dark time the knowledge of Jesus' resurrection will encourage in all a hope-filled heart.
We pray to the Lord.

For all who suffer
That they will be accompanied by people of compassion and mercy
We pray to the Lord.

For all who are burdened
That the joy of the Risen Christ brings them hope.
We pray to the Lord.

Leader: God of life, you bring the light of hope and the promise of re-birth.
 Receive our prayers on this most sacred of days. Grant what we
 need and enable us to see your light in our world.
 We ask this in the name of Jesus,
 Amen. Alleluia.

All Alleluia! We celebrate that Christ is risen.