



# *Easter Vigil*

*Saint Peter Cathedral*

*Erie, Pennsylvania*

*April 8, 2023*





*Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico, J. C. L.*  
*Bishop of Erie, Pennsylvania*

# FIRST PART: THE SOLEMN BEGINNING OF THE VIGIL

(*Lucernarium*)

\* \* \*

## The Blessing of the Fire and Preparation of the Candle

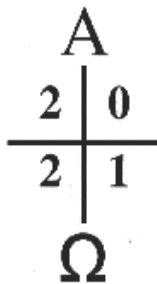
*A large fire is prepared in a suitable place. The people and the Priest assemble there with the other ministers (carrying the paschal candle). The Priest then greets the assembly in the usual manner and briefly instructs them about the vigil and blesses the fire.*

Dear brethren (brothers and sisters),...Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*To stress the dignity and significance of the paschal candle, the following rite is done.*

*After the blessing of the new fire, the Priest cuts a cross into the candle with a stylus. Then he traces the Greek letter Alpha above the cross, the letter Omega below, and the numerals of the current year between the arms of the cross. While doing this he says:*

1. Christ yesterday and today;
2. the Beginning and the End;
3. the Alpha;
4. and the Omega.
5. All time belongs to him;
6. and all the ages.
7. To him be glory and power;
8. through every age and for ever. Amen.



*When the cross and other marks have been made, the Priest may insert five grains of incense in the candle. He does this in the form of a cross saying:*

- |                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| 1. By his holy           | 1     |
| 2. and glorious wounds,  |       |
| 3. may Christ the Lord   | 4 2 5 |
| 4. guard us              |       |
| 5. and protect us. Amen. | 3     |

*The Priest lights the paschal candle from the new fire, saying:*

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



## Procession

One of the ministers takes burning coals from the fire and places them in the thurible; the Priest then places incense into it. The Deacon, or other appropriate minister, accepts the paschal candle from the Priest, and a procession is formed. The Priest and ministers follow the smoking thurible and lit paschal candle, leading the people, who are holding unlit candles, to the door of the church. At the door of the darkened church, the Deacon then takes the Easter candle, lifts it high, and sings:



After this, the Priest lights his candle. When the procession reaches the middle of the church, the Deacon lifts the candle high and sings a second time:

The Light of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

All light their candles from the paschal candle and the procession continues. When the Deacon arrives before the altar, he faces the people and sings a third time:

The Light of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

After the paschal candle is placed in a large candle holder, the lights in the church are put on, except for the altar candles.

## The Easter Proclamation (Exsultet)

The Easter Proclamation is proclaimed by the Deacon or, in his absence, by the Priest. If necessary, a lay cantor may sing the Proclamation. In this case, the words "Therefore, dearest friends" up to the end of the invitation are omitted, as is the greeting "The Lord be with you." All stand and hold lighted candles.



## SECOND PART: THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Readings can be found in your Red Worship Hymnal #824

\* \* \*

First Reading

Genesis 1: 1-2:2

*God created the world and saw how good it was.  
God looked at everything and found it very good.*

*After each reading, the reader says, "The word of the Lord," and all respond:*

**Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm: *(cantor/all)*

Psalm 104

Proulx



**Lord, send out your Spir-it, and re-new the face of the earth.**

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Prayer: *(please stand)*

\* \* \*



## Second Reading

Exodus 14: 15-15: 1

*Israel passed through the Red Sea unharmed.  
As for the Egyptians, their horses and chariots were tossed into the sea.*

## Responsorial Psalm: (cantor/all)

Exodus 15

Gelineau



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## Prayer: (please stand)

\* \* \*

## Third Reading

Ezekiel 36: 16-17a, 18-28

*The Lord will pour clean water over the people and give them a new heart.*

## Responsorial Psalm: (cantor/all)

Isaiah 12: 2-3, 4, 5-6

Alstott



Music: Owen Alstott, © 1977, 1990, OCP (R&A p. 30)

## Prayer: (please stand)



# Glory to God

## Mass of St. Peter the Apostle

(sung by all)

Maestoso  $\text{♩} = 80$

*mf*

Richard Robert Rossi (b. 1962)

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and on  
*poco a poco cresc.*

earth peace to peo - ple of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we a -  
*f*

dore — you, we glo - ri - fy you, we give you thanks, for your great glor - ry, —  
*mf poco rall.*

Lord God Hea - ven - ly King, O God al - migh - ty Fa - ther,  
*mp poco meno mosso*

Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly be - got - ten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the  
Fa - ther, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on  
us; you take a - way the sins of the world, re - ceive — our prayer,  
*rall.*

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer - cy on





*tempo primo*

us. — For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

*f*

you a-lone are the most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

*rall.* *Broadly* *molto rit.* *ff*

Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men, A - men!

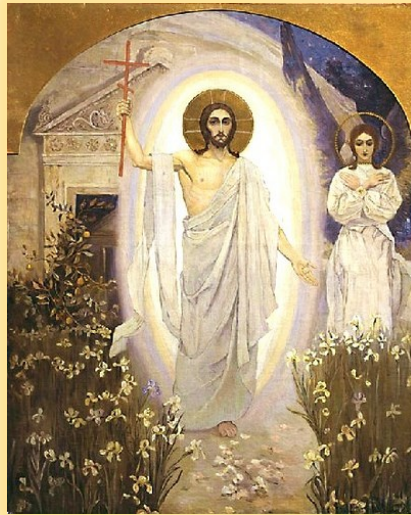
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Prayer

Epistle

Romans 6: 3-11

*Christ's death is death to sin once and for all, and his life is life for God.  
We are dead to sin and living for God in Christ.*



# Responsorial Psalm/Alleluia: (cantor/all)

Victory  
Palestrina/Rossi



*Vs. 1: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,  
for his mercy endures forever.  
Let the house of Israel say,  
"His mercy endures forever."*

**(all repeat refrain)**

*Vs. 2: "The right hand of the Lord has struck with power;  
The right hand of the Lord is exalted.  
I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the Lord."*

**(all repeat refrain)**

*Vs. 3: The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.  
By the Lord has this been done;  
it is wonderful in our eyes.*

**(all repeat refrain)**



## Gospel Reading

Mark 16: 1-7

*Before the Gospel, the Priest/Deacon says, "The Lord be with you," and all respond:*  
**And with your spirit.**

*Before Priest/Deacon says, "A reading from the Holy Gospel according to N".,*  
*and all respond: **Glory to you, O Lord.***

*After the Gospel reading, the Priest/Deacon says, "The Gospel of the Lord,"*  
*and all respond: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.***

## Homily

\* \* \*

## THIRD PART: THE BAPTISMAL LITURGY

\* \* \*

### The Blessing of Water

The Renewal of Baptismal Promises: *(all respond with "I do")*

### Sprinkling Rite

### Prayers of the Faithful



# FOURTH PART: THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## Offertory and Preparation of the Gifts

Choral Anthem

O Sons and Daughters

Plainchant/arr. By Davies

\* \* \*

*The Priest prays "... that the sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father, " and all respond:*

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

## Prayer over the Gifts

*The Priest says the prayer over the gifts, following this, the people respond:*

**Amen**

## The Eucharistic Prayer/Preface

*The Eucharistic Prayer begins with a dialogue between the Priest and the assembly.*

*Priest: The Lord be with you. All: **And with your spirit.***

*Priest: Lift up your hearts. All: **We Lift them up to the Lord.***

*Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. All: **It is right and just.***



## Holy, Holy, Holy: (sung by all)

Maestoso ♩ = 88

Richard R Rossi

*mf*

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts. Hea-ven and

*f*

earth are full, full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na, Ho - san - na, Ho -

*mf* *cresc.*

san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the

*f* *rall.*

Lord. Ho - san-na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san-na in the high - est!



## The Mystery of Faith: (sung by all)

Maestoso ♩ = 88

Rossi

*mf*

When we eat this bread and drink this Cup, we pro-

*f* *rall.*

claim your Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain!



## Great Amen: (sung by all)

Maestoso

Rossi

Musical score for 'Great Amen' in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a whole rest, followed by a half rest, and then a quarter note 'A' with a dynamic marking of *f*. The second staff begins with a half note 'men,', followed by a quarter note 'a', a half note 'men,', a quarter note 'a', a quarter note 'men', a quarter note 'A', a quarter note 'men!', and a whole note. A *rall.* marking is placed above the 'men' notes. The piece ends with a double bar line.

## The Lord's Prayer: (recite together)

Sign of Peace: After the Priest says, "The peace of the Lord be with you always," and all respond:

**And with your spirit.**

## Lamb of God: (sung by all)

Andante espressivo ♩ = 80

Rossi

Musical score for 'Lamb of God' in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a dynamic marking of *mp* and a tempo marking of ♩ = 80. The lyrics are: 'Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace, rit. grant us peace.' The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings (*mf*, *p*). The piece ends with a double bar line.

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After the Priest says, "Behold the Lamb of God,... called to the supper of the Lamb." the people respond:

**Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,  
But only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**



# Communion Hymn: *(sung by all)*

# Festival Canticle

Hillert

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-

lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. lu - ia.

Verses

1. Wor - thy is Christ, the \_ Lamb who was slain, whose
2. Pow - er, rich - es, \_ wis - dom, and strength, and
3. Sing with all the \_ peo - ple of God, and
4. Bless - ing, hon - or, \_ glo - ry, and might be to
5. For the Lamb \_\_\_\_\_ who was slain has be -

to Refrain

1. blood set us free \_\_\_ to be peo - ple of God.
2. hon - or, \_\_\_ bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.
3. join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion.
4. God and the Lamb for ev - er. A - men.
5. gun his \_\_\_ reign. \_\_\_ Al - le - lu - ia.

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# Communion Choral Anthem

Händel

## “Hallelujah Chorus” from *Messiah*



## CONCLUDING RITE

### Final Blessing

### Closing Hymn: *(sung by all)*

### Jesus Christ is Risen Today Easter Hymn

1. Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day,  
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing,  
3. But the pains which he en-dured,  
4. Sing we to our God a - bove, } Al - le - lu - ia!

1. Our tri - um-phant ho - ly day,  
2. Un - to Christ, our heav'n-ly King,  
3. Our sal - va - tion have pro-cured;  
4. Praise e - ter - nal as his love, } Al - le - lu - ia!

1. Who did once up - on the cross,  
2. Who en-dured the cross and grave,  
3. Now he reigns a - bove as King,  
4. Praise him, all ye heav'n-ly host, } Al - le - lu - ia!

1. Suf - fer to re-deem our loss.  
2. Sin - ners to re-deem and save.  
3. Where the an-gels ev - er sing.  
4. Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. } Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: 77 77 with alleluias; verse 1, Latin, 14th cent.; para. in *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.;  
verses 2-3, *The Compleat Psalmist*, ca. 1750, alt.; verse 4, Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.  
Music: Later form of melody fr. *Lyra Davidica*, 1708.

### Organ Postlude: Widor *Toccata*





# Clergy

*Very Rev. Michael P. Ferrick, V.F., Rector*

*Very Rev. Nicholas J. Rouch, S.T.D., E.V., in Residence*

*Rev. Michael Kesicki, Gannon University, in Residence &  
Assistant Master of Ceremonies*

*Rev. David Renne, St. Mark Seminary*

*Rev. Patrick J. McCormick, Senior Priest*

*Deacon Cory Pius, Transitional Deacon*

*Deacon Jeffrey Swanson, Deacon Assistant*

*Deacon Ray Sobina, M.S., Deacon Assistant*

*Rev. Christopher J. Singer, J.C.L., Chancellor &  
Master of Ceremonies*



## *Easter Sunday Mass Schedule*

**6:30, 8:30 and 11:00AM**

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*Our deepest gratitude to all who played a special role in the Easter Celebrations including our bishop, priests, deacons and staff of St. Peter Cathedral.*

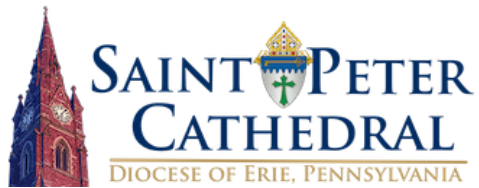
*We also extend our heartfelt thanks to all of the musicians for sharing their many talents and gifts with us on this most holy of days.*

*Finally, we thank you, the parish family of St. Peter Cathedral for your ongoing support, dedication and most of all, your prayers.*

*May all of you have a Blessed and Holy Easter Season*







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