

Holy Week, 2021 Resources:

Liturgy of the Word– from ‘Thought for the Day Lent Booklet’ Fr Dermot Ryan, Ossory Adult Faith Development

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Scripture Union Film Series (particularly good for 10 to 18 year-olds). See:

<https://nuafilmseries.org/nua-easter-registration-form>

Episode One: The Origins of Easter

Episode Two: The Story of Good Friday

Episode Three: The Meaning of the Resurrection

Resources for Holy Week, Easter Triduum are now available on the website of the National Centre for Liturgy. See

<https://www.facebook.com/1032800110135025/posts/3943803559034651/?sfnsn=mo>

The following documents are available:

PDF - Holy Week 2021 - Introduction to the Resources

- Document 1 PDF - [CDWDS - Celebration of Holy Week](#)
- Document 2 PDF - [CDWDS - Decree on Covid-19](#)
- Document 3 PDF - [Service of Reconciliation](#)
- Document 4 PDF - [Penitential Service Document 5 PDF -](#)
- Document 6 PDF - [Way of the Cross](#)
- Document 7 - www.kandle.ie/stationsofthecrosslent2021/
- Document 8 PDF - [Liturgy of the Hours](#)
- Document 9 PDF - [Bringing Holy Week Home](#)
- Document 10 - www.armaghprays.com/wednesday-holy-week
- Document 11 PDF - [Washing of the Feet](#)
- Document 12 PDF - [A Good Friday Prayer](#)
- Document 13 PDF - [An Easter Garden](#)

Easter Saturday Night: Liturgies

Of the services for the Easter Vigil, the two most possible at home are the Service of Light and the Liturgy of the Word. (The others are Liturgy of Baptism and Liturgy of the Eucharist). Two simple services are offered below.

Service of Light – (Appendix 1)

Liturgy of the Word– (Appendix 2) from ‘Thought for the Day Lent Booklet’ Fr Dermot Ryan, Ossory Adult Faith Development

Tel 056 7753624 Email afd@ossory.ie Web www.ossory.ie (Appendix 2)

For the children – The story of the ugly duckling (Appendix 3)

Appendix 1

Service of Light

Begin by having your room/garden in darkness, settling yourself and the lighting a small fire or candle(s). Wait for the fire/candle(s) to take before beginning.

We read from Matthew (5:14): You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

Consider how ...

How have you brought light to the lives of those who wrote to you? Pause for ten seconds to think about this.

How will you bring light to the lives of others in the future? Pause for ten seconds to think about this.

Who brings light to your life? Pause for ten seconds to think about this.

Just as the lights from our candles has brightened this room/this garden, so the light from our hearts and souls brightens the world.

Reflect on how we can be vessels of light, brightening the darkness in the lives of others, as we listen to a song.

Play some music ... 'Shining Light' for example

Conclude by saying the 'Our Father' together.

Appendix 2

Liturgy of the Word (Adults): Introduction

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Lighting of Candle (Optional)

May the light of Christ guide us through this Lenten season and Pandemic time and may we be open to his words as we pray.

Today I am thankful for....

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

A word from St Paul

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.

Reflection

That is a very profound statement and one that has many far-reaching implications for all of us. Have we the capacity to rise with Christ to a different lifestyle? Are we ready to move away from all that we do in our daily lives to another, more committed life? Will our attitudes change after the miracle of Easter?

Big questions requiring big answers.

Action

Bring to mind that which, at the beginning of Lent, was your motivation. Can you still reach on that? Are you willing to change? To allow this Lent to be a new beginning for you?

Concluding Prayer

Father, I abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will. Whatever you may do, I thank you: I am ready for all, I accept all. Let only your will be done in me, and in all your creatures. I wish no more than this, O Lord. Into your hands I commend my soul; I offer it to you with all the love of my heart, for I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself, to surrender myself into your hands, without reserve, and with boundless confidence, for you are my Father.

Further Readings:

Hosea 5:15-6:2

Easter Vigil: Seventh reading

Ezekiel 36:16-17,18-28

Epistle - Romans 6:3-11

Psalm 117:1-2,16-17,22-23

Matthew 28:1-10

Appendix 3

Liturgy of the Word (Children): Introduction

Our True Identity

Reflection: God has given us the truth about where we came from, why we are here and to where we are going. Much of the confusion in this life comes from simply not understanding who we are and to Whom we belong.

Story: Listen to this story ... A mother duckling discovers that one of her chicks is very large and unusually ugly. The ugly ducklings cannot leave the ugly child alone. They punish him mercilessly. The ugly duckling decided that it would be best for everyone if he left his family and so he ran away.

Then one day, he sees flying overhead a flock of majestic birds. He takes flight and follows them to a beautiful lake. The ugly duckling looks into the lake and sees the reflection of a magnificent swan.

The ugly duckling realises that the reflection is his own. He has discovered who he really is.

Reflection: Think of where you come from. You're the sons and daughters of the greatest and most glorious Being in the universe.

He loves you with an infinite love. He wants the best for you.

This knowledge changes everything. It changes your present. It can change your future. And it can change the world.

If only we understood who we are and what is in store for us and how much we are loved.

Our hearts would overflow with such gratitude and happiness that it would enlighten even the darkest sorrows with a light and love of God.

Of course there will always be voices telling you that you are foolish to believe you are swans insisting that you are ugly ducklings and that you can't expect to become anything else.

But you know better.

You are no ordinary beings. You are glorious and eternal.