

APRIL 15, 2017

HOLY SATURDAY EASTER VIGIL



GENESIS 1:1–2:2 OR 1:1, 26–31A

PSALM 104:1–2, 5–6, 10, 12, 13–14, 24, 35

PSALM 33:4–5, 6–7, 12–13, 20–22

GENESIS 22:1–18 OR 22: 1–2, 9A, 10–13, 15–18

PSALM 16:5, 8, 9–10, 11

EXODUS 14:15–15:1

EXODUS 15:1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 17–18

ISAIAH 54:5–14

PSALM 30:2, 4, 5–6, 11–12, 13

ISAIAH 55:1–11

ISAIAH 12:2–3, 4, 5–6

BARUCH 3:9–15, 32–4:4

PSALM 19:8, 9, 10, 11

EZEKIEL 36:16–17A, 18–28

PSALM 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4

ISAIAH 12:2–3, 4BCD, 5–6

PSALM 51:12–13, 14–15, 18–19

ROMANS 6:3–11

PSALM 118:1–2, 16–17, 22–23

MATTHEW 28:1–10

REFLECTION

If yesterday was the saddest day of the liturgical year, then today, the Easter Vigil, is the happiest. Yesterday we thought all was lost, and today Jesus has risen! This is the heart of the Good News, the source of our hope and joy. So the Vigil is one big ritual of celebration. If this were the only Mass you attended during the whole year, you'd still hear the whole of our faith life, starting with the beginning of time and going up to today. It's especially significant that this night is set aside to welcome new members into the Church for the first time (Baptism) or into full Communion (Confirmation or Eucharist). Our celebration is for the Risen Christ, he who conquered death, but it is also for those whom we are bringing into the family. We celebrate their faith journey with us, and together we hear the Good News.

ACTION

Make or purchase a card to give to one of the people who received sacraments at the Vigil liturgy, to help welcome him or her into the Church.

JOURNALING QUESTIONS

- How do I celebrate Jesus' Resurrection?
- How do I express my hope and joy for life?