Happy Easter!

Resurrection Eggs are an interactive way of retelling the story of Jesus’ Passion, Death and Resurrection. If you’ve been with us throughout the season of Lent, you will now have a full set! If you would like to create any that you may have missed, use the list below and make or find items at home to fill in your set.

Use the QR code to play some Easter music, take a look at the next page for suggestions of how to use your Resurrection Eggs at home and have an amazing Easter celebrating the Risen Christ!
How can you use your Resurrection Eggs at home? Here are some ideas!

- Number each egg on the outside so you know which order to open them in.
- Share the story with your family. Pray this prayer together:

  **JESUS,**
  THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT OF THIS STORY. YOU SHOWED US YOUR HUGE LOVE FOR US THROUGH THE CROSS. HELP US TO KEEP THIS STORY IN OUR HEARTS AND TO SHARE YOUR LOVE WITH EVERYONE THAT WE MEET.
  **AMEN.**

  **Games to play with your resurrection eggs:**

  **Egg Hunt:**
  - Take turns with a family member to hide and find the eggs around the house. If you have a sibling that wants to play as well, try to split up the numbers so that each person finds specific eggs. When you have found all of them, put them back into the correct order.

  **Memory game:**
  - Make 12 matching pieces of paper numbered 1-12 on one side of the paper. Make sure that you can’t read the number through the paper on the other side.
  - Shuffle up the numbers and arrange them in front of your eggs with the numbers facing down.
  - Take turns with a family member flipping up one number and seeing if it matches the number on the egg in front of it. If the number on the paper does not match the egg, you flip it down again and move to the next player’s turn.
  - If the numbers match, you leave the paper facing up.
  - If the numbers don’t match but you remember where the matching number is from a previous turn, you can switch them to create your match.
  - The goal is to ultimately match all of the numbers to their eggs.

  **Story order:**
  - Take the items out of the eggs and shuffle them up. Place them back in front of your eggs in the order that you remember them happening in the story. See how many you can remember correctly. If you have some mixed up, shuffle them and try it again. You can use this sheet to quickly check your results:

  [link to PDF](https://biblegamescentral.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Resurrection-Eggs-Order.pdf)
Happy Easter!

Did you know that Easter is more than just one day? The Easter season lasts from Easter Sunday all the way until the feast of Pentecost on May 28th. It is a season of joy and celebration of the Divine Life that Jesus has given us!

If you have been following along with the Lenten Family Resource, you can now take down your crown of thorns that we have been adding to during the Lenten season but before you do, collect all of the flowers that you have added (you may need to cut them off if you glued them) and take a moment to wonder at these beautiful acts of giving, praying and fasting that have prepared you for the celebration of the Easter season. Keep these flowers in a safe place as we will be using them again throughout the season of Easter!

If you haven’t used the Lenten Family Resource, it is not too late to join in! You can make some flowers out of any materials you like and make the same connection to any prayer and preparation that you have done during Lent.

During the Easter season you will be replacing your crown of thorns with a new image to reflect on! While the crown of thorns reminded us of Jesus’ death and sacrifice, during Easter we will be focusing on Jesus’ resurrection and the joy that comes with that! We will be making a Divine Mercy image of Jesus to help us celebrate.
First Week of Easter

Create a Divine Mercy Image of Jesus that looks something like this:

The easiest way to do this is to make a drawing or painting but you could choose to use your imagination and make a collage, use different colours of fabric arranged in your prayer space, build an image of Jesus with different colours of blocks, or maybe add to an image of Jesus from a prayer card or book that you already have. You can choose whatever medium you find most exciting but remember to include these details:

- One of Jesus’ hands is open in a blessing
- The other of Jesus’ hands is touching his heart to show his love

- Jesus is wearing white. This is the colour in the church that we use to show Resurrection! (That’s why you wear white for your Baptism and confirmation and we use white linens on the altar)

- From Jesus’ heart, there are two beams of light coming forth. One side is red, the other is blue. These remind us of the part of the story of Jesus on the cross when blood and water pour out of his side. Now in Easter, they are replaced with beautiful light and remind us of God’s divine mercy!

- Make sure the beams of red and blue light are long enough that you will be able to stick or place your flowers (that you saved from your crown of thorns) onto them.

Don’t worry too much about making it look exactly like these example images. The important part is the process of making this creation with a spirit of Easter joy! Make sure it’s an image that you are really proud of and that you are able to keep up for the entire Easter season as we continue to add to it.
Welcome to the second week of Easter! Remember that Easter is a whole season, not just one day! This week we will be adding onto the beautiful Divine Mercy image of Jesus that you made last week.

Take three of the flowers that you have saved from your Lenten crown of thorns and add them to your image of Jesus on the red and blue rays of light. You can attach these or rest them on top depending on the design that you chose.

Remember that during Lent, these represented your hard work giving, praying and fasting. Now they will be transformed into symbols of your Easter celebration! For each flower, choose a fun way to celebrate God’s love! I will make some suggestions but you can choose another way to celebrate depending on what works best for you and your family.

**Flower 1)** Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday with an icecream sundae made to look like the image of Jesus’ heart with red and blue beams of light. You can use this as inspiration [https://www.catholicicing.com/celebrate-divine-mercy-sunday/](https://www.catholicicing.com/celebrate-divine-mercy-sunday/) or choose another way to show these colours in a delicious way.

**Flower 2)** As we just celebrated the Easter Octave, choose 8 of your favourite things to enjoy. Maybe it’s 8 favourite songs, 8 favourite books, or 8 knock knock jokes.

**Flower 3)** While during Lent, we fasted from singing “Hallelujah”, during the Easter season, we are encouraged to use it a lot! John Paul II once said “We are an Easter people and Hallelujah is our song!” Make up your own song with these words. Add instruments, dances, shouts of joy, or whatever makes you think of Easter celebration!
Welcome to the third week of Easter! Remember that Easter is a whole season, not just one day! This week we will be adding onto the beautiful Divine Mercy image of Jesus that you made last week.

Take three of the flowers that you have saved from your Lenten crown of thorns and add them to your image of Jesus on the red and blue rays of light. You can attach these or rest them on top depending on the design that you chose.

Remember that during Lent, these represented your hard work giving, praying and fasting. Now they will be transformed into symbols of your Easter celebration! For each flower, choose a fun way to celebrate God’s love! I will make some suggestions but you can choose another way to celebrate depending on what works best for you and your family.

Flower 1) Go for a walk outside and look for signs of new life! Baby animals, budding plants, warmer weather are all great signs! Pray a thank you prayer to Jesus for these beautiful signs.

Flower 2) Have a dance party to these Easter songs or any of your other favourites to show your Easter joy! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2gRqdvzFpP4&list=PL43aKRpA1HbRVm3CDu8sYkcVbpeRJQDbA

Flower 3) Make your own Resurrection set (like a nativity set around Advent and Christmas time) to remind you of the reason for our celebration. If you would like a printable version, or to get ideas, use this link https://www.catholicicing.com/religious-easter-craft-for-kids-make/
Welcome to the fourth week of Easter! Remember that Easter is a whole season, not just one day! This week we will be adding onto the beautiful Divine Mercy image of Jesus that you made last week.

Take three of the flowers that you have saved from your Lenten crown of thorns and add them to your image of Jesus on the red and blue rays of light. You can attach these or rest them on top depending on the design that you chose.

Remember that during Lent, these represented your hard work giving, praying and fasting. Now they will be transformed into symbols of your Easter celebration! For each flower, choose a fun way to celebrate God’s love! I will make some suggestions but you can choose another way to celebrate depending on what works best for you and your family.

Flower 1) Have a special family dinner and light your Baptismal candles. The Easter season is an amazing time to think about your Baptism because it is how God welcomes us into the new life in Christ Jesus! Maybe your family has stories to tell you about that special day.

Flower 2) Play a game of “Marco, Polo” but instead have person 1 yell “He is Risen!” and person 2 respond “Indeed, He is Risen!”.

Flower 3) Go on the lookout for butterflies! Butterflies are great symbols of Easter because they emerge from their cocoons with new life like Jesus did from the tomb. You could look in your neighbourhood, craft or draw your own butterflies, or maybe even look up butterfly conservatories.
Welcome to the fifth week of Easter! Remember that Easter is a whole season, not just one day! This week we will be adding onto the beautiful Divine Mercy image of Jesus that you made last week.

Take three of the flowers that you have saved from your Lenten crown of thorns and add them to your image of Jesus on the red and blue rays of light. You can attach these or rest them on top depending on the design that you chose.

Remember that during Lent, these represented your hard work giving, praying and fasting. Now they will be transformed into symbols of your Easter celebration! For each flower, choose a fun way to celebrate God’s love! I will make some suggestions but you can choose another way to celebrate depending on what works best for you and your family.

**Flower 1)** One symbol of Easter is the stone that was rolled away from Jesus’ empty tomb on Easter morning. Find some stones outside and do something fun with them! Maybe do some stone painting, see if you can learn to skip them in water, see how many you can stack without them falling over. Be creative and choose a way that is most joyful for you.

**Flower 2)** Go for a fun walk with your family and think about the Road to Emmaus (found in the bible, Luke 24:13–35) Remember to look at everyone you pass and imagine what it would be like if they were Jesus, come to meet you on your journey.

**Flower 3)** Do something else that you love and say “Thank you Jesus!”.
Sixth Week of Easter

Welcome to the sixth week of Easter! Remember that Easter is a whole season, not just one day! This week we will be adding onto the beautiful Divine Mercy image of Jesus that you made last week.

Take three of the flowers that you have saved from your Lenten crown of thorns and add them to your image of Jesus on the red and blue rays of light. You can attach these or rest them on top depending on the design that you chose.

Remember that during Lent, these represented your hard work giving, praying and fasting. Now they will be transformed into symbols of your Easter celebration! For each flower, choose a fun way to celebrate God’s love! I will make some suggestions but you can choose another way to celebrate depending on what works best for you and your family.

Flower 1) Think of a way that you can share your joy with someone else. Maybe it’s telling a funny joke, singing them a song, or playing a game together.

Flower 2) In this season of new life, say a special prayer for any babies being born today and all babies still growing in the womb, that they be kept safe and loved.

Flower 3) Read and pray with the stories of the Stations of Light. Are there any that you recognize?

- *Jesus Rises From the Dead* (Matthew 28:1-10)
- *The Finding of the Empty Tomb* (John 20:1-10)
- *The Risen Lord Appears to Mary Magdalene* (John 20:11-18)
- *Jesus is Known at the Breaking of Bread* (Luke 24:28-35)
- *Jesus Appears to His Disciples in Jerusalem* (Luke 24:36-43)
- *Jesus Gives the Disciples the Power to Forgive Sins* (John 20:19-23)
- *Jesus Strengthens the Faith of Thomas* (John 20:24-29)
- *Jesus Appears by the Sea of Tiberias* (John 21:1-14)
- *Jesus Tell Peter to Feed His Sheep* (Primacy of Peter) (John 21:15-17, 19b)
- *Jesus Commissions the Disciples on the Mountain* (Matthew 28:16-20)
- *Jesus Ascends into Heaven* (Acts 1:6-12a)
- *Mary and the Disciples Wait in Prayer* (Acts 1:12-14)
Welcome to the final full week of Easter! This week we will be celebrating the stories that we’ve been learning about the resurrected Jesus!

Take any extra leftover flowers that you have saved from your Lenten crown of thorns and add them to your image of Jesus on the red and blue rays of light.

Display your completed Easter image (Jesus and all of your flowers) and soak in all of the love that has gone into these Lenten preparations and Easter celebrations. Say a thank you prayer to God for all of these gifts!

Share your beautiful image with us by either bringing it in to 10am Mass with you on Pentecost (May 28) or by sending a picture of it to ali.fitzmaurice7@gmail.com

After mass, we invite you to join us in the Parish Hall to display your images and have a symbolic tea party to represent all of the Stations of Light.

If you are unable to make it, you can still help your family plan and prepare some or all of these tasty treats to help you remember the stories of Jesus Resurrected and the joy that He brings to us. Use the QR code for ideas. If none of these foods work for you and your family, choose different foods or drinks to help you celebrate.