

Daily Prayer

Third Sunday of Easter,
The Year of Luke; Jubilee Year 2025



Readings: Acts 5: 27–32; Revelations 5: 11–14; John 21: 1–19

Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope

Source: [Jubilee Resource Pack for Parishes](#)

Jubilee years are a time of newness. They have been celebrated throughout the history of the Church, but their roots go back to the Old Testament, when the Israelites were commanded to celebrate a jubilee every 50 years...

Saint Mary of the Cross Mackillop used to say: 'We are but travellers here.' For the 2025 Jubilee Year, Pope Francis invites us to reflect on what it means to be pilgrims of hope: a people who are not only travellers here but walking in joyful anticipation of 'the heavenly goal to which we have been called' (SNC §25).

Pope Francis believed that, in today's world, hope suffers; that too many people have been robbed by cynicism and despair. During Jubilee 2025, he wants everyone to have 'an intense experience of the love of God that awakens in hearts the sure hope of salvation in Christ' (SNC §6). Only this hope—born from knowing that nothing can separate us from God's love (Rom 8:35-39)—can breathe life back into weary souls.

This hope is not optimism. It is not a forced positivity in the face of hardship and evil. It is a grace from God, a trust in the Lord's promises: that he is good, that he is merciful, and that we are journeying towards the one who says, 'Look, I am making everything new' (Rev 21:5).



For this reason, the most striking part of the logo for this jubilee is the cross: bending towards humanity and forming an anchor, it depicts the cross as something to cling to, especially in rough seas. It is a contemporary 'riff' on an old biblical image. The epistle to the Hebrews describes the hope we have in Christ as 'an anchor of the soul, as sure as it is firm' (6:19).

The cross is not a dead symbol from the past. It is a living sign of God's unfathomable love, and one that carries us together in pilgrimage towards heaven.

Preparations for Daily Prayer

The following daily prayers can be used in their entirety or adapted to meet the needs of the audience. The prayers draw on the Sunday readings, so you may use any of the prayers on any day, although special focus will be given to Feast days, Solemnities, and days of special cultural significance. Feel free to adapt the prayers for special occasions or specific intentions of your own class and school.

The prayers will introduce students to traditional prayer and liturgical practices and responses, as well as a variety of Christian spiritual experiences. Take the opportunity to create a Sacred Space for prayer as you might do in creating a protected garden. This may include a prayer cloth or placemat, a bible, a crucifix, a candle, and flowers. Additional resources (apps, websites, music, videos) will be suggested for those wanting to enrich the prayers or to understand the readings at a deeper level.

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The Year of Luke

The Gospel readings for this Year C are taken from the Gospel of Luke and the Church has now entered the Season of Easter.

Daily Prayer will invite those gathered to participate in prayer rituals and respond respectfully in a prayerful context. This week is about setting up for success in a way that those gathered will become comfortable with the structure, the responses, the gestures, the prayers and the symbols. Daily Prayer will be a time when all feel welcomed and valued.

Overview of the Week

Day and Liturgical Colour	Daily Prayer	Links to Liturgy, Traditional Prayers, and Forms of Prayer
Monday – White	<i>Blessing</i>	Easter candle, echo prayer
Tuesday – White	<i>Joy comes with the dawn</i>	Gospel, reflection, echo prayer
Wednesday – White	<i>Come and have breakfast</i>	Gospel, imaginative meditation
Thursday – White	<i>Feed my sheep</i>	Gospel, reflection
Friday – White	<i>Easter gifts</i>	Hymn and Prayers of the Faithful

Note that scripture quotations are from the Lectionary (*Jerusalem Bible*) or NRSV.

Suggested Teacher Background for the Readings

- Liturgy Help: [Commentaries and Homilies & Reflections](#)
- Loyola Press: [Sunday Connection](#)
- The Emmaus Series: [Sunday Reflections.](#)



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Monday

Today's Daily Prayer – Blessing.

Preparation: Choose a reader and someone to light the candle.

Gather

Remind those present to turn phones to silent, close computer screens, sit quietly and prepare for prayer by becoming aware of their breath. There may be special occasions or specific intentions that those gathered may wish to include in today's prayer.

Leader:

As Easter people and people of prayer may this be a time for each of us to grow in our relationship with the Risen Christ. (Pause. A candle may be lit)

All: May we know and recognise the light of Christ.

Leader:

Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of God ...

Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of each other ...

Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of ourselves ...

Let us take time to STOP and simply breathe ...

Be aware of our breath ...

Notice the pattern of our 'in' breath and our 'out' breath ...

Slow down our breathing as we remain in silence and stillness ... (Pause 30 seconds)

The Sign of the Cross

Leader: As we gather together in God's presence, let us make the Sign of the Cross.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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Listen

Leader:

The Paschal Candle or Easter Candle is a bright, blazing Easter light that symbolises Christ, the light of the world.

Let us listen to this prayer from the blessing of the Easter candle

Reader:

Christ, yesterday and today,
the Beginning and the End,
Alpha and Omega.
All time belongs to him and all the ages.
To him be glory and power through every age and forever.

All: Amen.

Reader:

By his holy and glorious wounds,
may Christ our Lord guard us and keep us.
May the light of Christ rising in glory
dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

All: Amen.



Photograph: Archbishop Peter A Comensoli

Leader:

I invite you to echo this prayer:
May Christ our Lord guard me and keep me.

All: May Christ our Lord guard me and keep me.

Leader:

Repeat these sacred words in the silence of your heart. Allow them to rest there, and spend time in silent prayer, asking Christ our Lord to be with you in the coming days and weeks.

Go Forth (an echo blessing)

Leader:

Let us pray for God's blessing.
May we be Easter people of joy, laughter and freedom. Alleluia! Alleluia!

All: Alleluia! Alleluia!

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Leader:

May we be Easter people of light and mercy. Alleluia! Alleluia!

All: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Pope Francis told us that “with the Jubilee, we start a new life, a new phase... we begin again.”

[Source](#)

Let us go forth this Easter sharing the light of hope and the message of God’s eternal love in word and deed.

All: God, guide us on our journey as ‘Pilgrims of Hope’.

Extinguish candles and pause.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



<https://pixabay.com/photos/lilies-of-the-valley-flowers-4240129>

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Readings: Acts 5: 27–32; Revelations 5: 11–14; John 21: 1–19

Tuesday

Today's Daily Prayer – Joy comes with the dawn.

Preparation: Choose a reader and someone to light the candle.

Gather

Remind those present to turn phones to silent, close computer screens, sit quietly and prepare for prayer by becoming aware of God present in the word, in each other and in ourselves. Take a few slow, deep breaths to help us focus on this moment. There may be special occasions or specific intentions that those gathered may wish to include in today's prayer.

Leader:

As Easter people, let us gather for prayer (*Light candle and pause.*)

All: May we know and recognise the light of Christ.

The Sign of the Cross

Leader:

As we gather together in God's presence, let us make the Sign of the Cross.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



<https://pixabay.com/photos/sunrise-red-dawn-sun-mood-1688100/>

Background

Leader: Today we will listen to an excerpt from the gospel reading for the Third Sunday of Easter. *Joy comes with the Dawn.*

The disciples of Jesus had experienced a very dark time, weighed down by their grief and shock at the death of Jesus. Peter was feeling guilt for denying that he knew Jesus. And they caught no fish! But joy came with the dawn! When the risen Christ appeared to them, they caught many fish, shared a meal with him and Peter experienced forgiveness. The Risen Christ invites us to come to him for nourishment, forgiveness, light and HOPE!

Let us prepare ourselves to listen to the word of God.

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Listen

If possible, the scripture passage is to be read from a lectionary or a bible, which could be put in an honoured place. Readers are to read slowly and clearly when proclaiming the Word of God and treat the text with reverence.

Reader:

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So, they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!'

The Gospel of the Lord.

(Pause)

All: Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

Respond

Jesus was waiting for the disciples on the shore, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus waits for us.

That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!'

Let us take time to reflect on the power of the presence of Jesus in our lives.

When do you talk to Jesus? (Pause)

When do you listen to Jesus? (Pause)

What are simple things you can do to know and follow Jesus? (Pause)

Spend a few moments speaking to him from your heart. (Give time for silent prayer.)

Go Forth (an echo blessing)

Leader:

Let us pray for God's blessing.

Leader:

May we be Easter people who know and follow Jesus. Alleluia! Alleluia!

All: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Leader:

May we be Easter people who experience and share JOY! Alleluia! Alleluia!



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All: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Leader:

May we be Easter people who experience and share HOPE! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Direct our gaze and focus on the hope and joy of the risen Christ so we may give honour and praise to you through our lives.

Pope Francis told us that “with the Jubilee, we start a new life, a new phase... we begin again.”

[Source](#)

Let us go forth in this Easter season afresh sharing the light of hope and message of God’s love in all that we say and do.

Extinguish candles and pause.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



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Wednesday

Today's Daily Prayer – Come and have breakfast.

Preparation: Choose a reader and someone to light a candle.

We Gather

Remind those present to turn phones to silent, close computer screens, sit quietly and prepare for prayer by becoming aware of God present in the word, in each other and in ourselves. Take a few slow, deep breaths to help us to focus on this moment. There may be special occasions or specific intentions that those gathered may wish to include in today's prayer.

Leader:

As Easter people,

Let us remember we are in the holy presence of each other

Let us gather together for prayer.

Light candle and pause.

All: May we know and recognise the light of Christ.

The Sign of the Cross

Leader: As we gather together in God's presence, let us make the Sign of the Cross.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Background

Leader:

Today we will listen to a continuation from the gospel reading for the Third Sunday of Easter.

Listen

Reader: A reading from the Gospel of John.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and



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took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Respond

Imaginative Meditation

Leader:

Use your imagination to enter the gospel scene on the beach.

'Come and have breakfast.'

What do you see? (Pause)

What are the aromas, tastes and textures that come alive as you imagine you are there with group having freshly cooked fish on the shore of the lake? (Pause)



Jesus appears in Galilee, from The Lumen project/FreeBibleimages.org.
<http://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/jesus-appears-galilee/>

Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish.

What do you believe the disciples and Jesus might have talked about?

What do you hear? (Pause)

Sit in quiet reflection and in your own words create a prayer in your heart that summarises what you are feeling.

Go Forth

Leader:

Let us pray for God's blessing. May we be Easter people who shout Amen as we give praise, honour and glory to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

All: Alleluia, Alleluia!

Leader: May we recognise Jesus when he is standing in our midst waiting for us.

All: Alleluia, Alleluia!

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Leader: Pope Francis told us that “with the Jubilee, we start a new life, a new phase... we begin again.” [Source](#)

All: **God, guide us on our journey as ‘Pilgrims of Hope’.**

Extinguish candles and pause.

All: **In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

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Thursday

Today's Daily Prayer – Feed my sheep .

Preparation: Choose readers and someone to light the candle.

Gather

Remind those present to turn phones to silent, close computer screens, sit quietly and prepare for prayer by becoming aware of God present in the word, in each other and in ourselves. Take a few slow, deep breaths to help us to focus on this moment. There may be special occasions or specific intentions that those gathered may wish to include in today's prayer.

Leader:

As Easter people,

Let us remember we are in the holy presence of each other

Let us stop and notice our surroundings and pay attention to our breath

Let us gather together for prayer.

As we light this candle let us listen with our hearts to what God asks of us.

Light candle and pause.

All: May we know and recognise the light of Christ.

The Sign of the Cross

Leader: As we gather together in God's presence, let us make the Sign of the Cross.

All: **In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Background to the Gospel

Leader:

Today we will listen to a continuation from the gospel reading for the Third Sunday of Easter. Let us prepare ourselves to listen to the Word of God.

Listen

A reading from the Gospel of John.



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When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.'

A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.'

He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Respond

Leader: Take a moment to sit with the words we have just listened to.
If Jesus asked you 'Do you love me?' what would be your response? (Pause)
What would Jesus be asking you to BE for others? (Pause)
What would Jesus be asking you to DO for others? (Pause)
How do you tend or care for others? (Pause)



Go Forth

Leader: Let us pray for God's blessing.

May we be Easter people who open our hearts of mercy by tending and caring for others.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

All: Alleluia, Alleluia!

Leader: Pope Francis told us that "with the Jubilee, we start a new life, a new phase... we begin again." [Source](#)

Let us go forth aware of our commitment to care for each other and all of God's creation.

All: God, guide us on our journey as 'Pilgrims of Hope'.
Extinguish candles and pause.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Figure 1: Jesus questions Peter: The Lumo Project/www.freebibleimages.org.
http://www.freebibleimages.org/download/?story=FB_Jesus_Questions_Peter&format=PPW

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Friday

Readings: Acts 5: 27–32; Revelations 5: 11–14; John 21: 1–19

Today's Daily Prayer – Go make a difference.

Preparation: Choose readers and someone to light the candle.

Gather

Remind those present to turn phones to silent, close computer screens, sit quietly and prepare for prayer by becoming aware of God present in the word, in each other and in ourselves. Take a few slow, deep breaths to help us focus on this moment. There may be special occasions or specific intentions that those gathered may wish to include in today's prayer.

Leader: As Easter people and people of prayer may this be a time for each of us to grow in our relationship with the Risen Christ. (Pause. A candle may be lit)

All: May we know and recognise the light of Christ.

Leader: Let us remember that we are in the holy presence of God ...

Slow down our breathing as we remain in silence and stillness ... (Pause 30 seconds)

The Sign of the Cross

Leader: As we gather together in God's presence, let us make the Sign of the Cross. (Pause)

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Light candle and pause.

Background

This week we remain in Eastertide, the liturgical season that centers on the Resurrection of Jesus. The readings focus on the weeks after the when the disciples and followers of Jesus are coming to terms with all that has happened since Palm Sunday when Jesus entered the city gates of Jerusalem. It is a time of many emotions and feelings but overall, Jesus reassures his followers of his eternal love, and he offers them his peace. These are priceless gifts are offered to us also, and all that believe.

Listen

Leader: Let us listen to and pray with the song, '[Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks](#)'



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Respond

Reader 1: Let us pray for Pope Francis, may our Lord carry him into the warmth, love, mercy and light of your presence.

We pray to the Lord

All: Lord Hear our Prayer

Reader 2: Let us pray for the whole Church as she joyfully celebrates the resurrection of the Lord, Archbishop Peter Comensoli and all the clergy; and for all God's holy and priestly people.

We pray to the Lord

All: Lord Hear our Prayer

Reader 3: Let us pray for the cardinals, who will soon gather to choose a successor. May they continue to listen to the Holy Spirit and hear God's call for the future.

We pray to the Lord

All: Lord Hear our Prayer

Reader 4: Let us pray for all nations and generations, to whom Christ's resurrection offers the fullness of salvation; for peace throughout the world and in the Holy Land, and for those who are experiencing natural disasters and violence.

We pray to the Lord

All: Lord Hear our Prayer

Reader 5: Let us pray for our school and parish communities, as they commence Term Two, may they gather to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus; nurturing faith and the call of God for all who seek God's guidance in their lives.

We pray to the Lord

All: Lord Hear our Prayer

Reader 6: Let us pray for those separated from family and loved ones, especially those serving abroad, for all who have died recently, and for all who mourn.

We pray to the Lord

All: Lord Hear our Prayer

Go Forth

Leader:

Pope Francis told us that "with the Jubilee, we start a new life, a new phase... we begin again."

[Source](#)

Let us go forth sharing God's peace and hope in all that we say and do.

All: God, guide us on our journey as 'Pilgrims of Hope'.

Extinguish candles and pause.

All: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

