WEEKLY ENCOUNTERS WITH THE RISEN CHRIST

The Weekly Encounters are intended for use in your Domestic Church during the Fifty Days of Easter. The order of prayer provided is the same week to week, with a different Gospel account of the Risen Lord’s appearance to his disciples, and to us. Each week, now through Pentecost, a new encounter will be proclaimed and prayed.

In “praying the Encounters” a visual is always helpful. It is suggested that the household come together and create a mosaic, or some other art form, to depict the scene described in the Gospel passage. Your imagination and creativity are the only limits. What would the Encounter of the Myrrh-Bearing Women look like? Three figures, each with a jar of perfume standing before an open tomb? You decide, and create. Once created, give this artwork a place of honor where your household prays.

It is also helpful, before praying the Encounters to assign a leader of prayer, a reader of Scripture, and any roles – maybe a leader of song! Prepare the Scripture passage to be proclaimed beforehand in your household Bible, as well. Each Encounter’s Gospel citation will be posted weekly on the Parish Website, the Parish/School Newsletter, the on-line Bulletin, and other communications.
The Order of Service: Encounters with the Risen Christ

All gather at the household place of prayer.
All begin with the Sign of the Cross, at the Leader’s direction.

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

Leader: Grace to you and peace from God the Father of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ.
All: And with your spirit.

Leader: Christ is risen from the dead! By death he trampled death; and to those in the tombs he granted life!
All: (repeating) Christ is risen...

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it!
All: Christ is risen...

Leader: Glory to the Father, through the Son, in the Holy Spirit!
All: Christ is risen...

All: Christ is risen...
The Weekly Encounter: Peter and John Reach the Tomb

John 20:1-10

(This week’s Encounter Passage is proclaimed by the designated Reader)

For reflection and discussion:
- What words or images stand out in this passage?
- What is happening, and what meaning does this suggest to you?
- What might this passage be asking of you?

Intercessions

All are invited to give voice to their needs and concerns,
the needs and concerns of the household, the Parish,
the city, state and nation,
and the needs and concerns of all.

Leader: (after each petition) For this we pray.

All: Risen Lord, hear our prayer.

The Lord’s Prayer

Leader: Joining our prayers and praise into one, we pray as Jesus taught us.

All: OUR FATHER...
Conclusion

It is most suitable in these days of Easter joy to conclude with song.

O Filii et Filiae – Ye Sons and Daughters

vs. 1 - Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  vs. 3 - Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Ye sons and daughters, let us sing!  An angel clad in white they see,
The King of heav’n, the glorious King,  Who sat, and spoke unto the three,
O’er death today rose triumphing.  “Your Lord doth go to Galilee.”
Alleluia!  Alleluia!

vs. 2 - Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  vs. 4 - Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
That Easter morn, at break of day,  On this most holy day of days,
The faithful women went their way  To God your hearts and voices raise,
To seek the tomb where Jesus lay.  In laud and jubilee and praise.
Alleluia!

vs. 5 - Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
And we with Holy Church unite,
As evermore is just and right,
In glory to the King of light.
Alleluia!

Music: 17th cent. French Proper Melody
Text by Jean Tisserand, d. 1494