

7. Jesus and Peter

Jn 21:15-19

[Light the seventh candle]

Jesus said, "Simon Peter, do you love me?" Peter replied, "Yes Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said "Feed my lambs." A second time, Jesus asked the question and Peter replied, "Yes Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said "Tend my sheep." A third time, Jesus asked the question and, feeling hurt, Peter replied, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus replied "Feed my sheep." And going on he foretold of how in his death Peter would glorify God.

Lord Jesus, you call us to love you with all our heart.

In love we give you praise and glory. **Alleluia!**

Lord Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. **Alleluia!**

8. Jesus ascends to heaven

Mt 28:16-20

[Light the eighth candle]

The disciples went to Galilee to the mountain as Jesus had told them. When they saw him, they worshipped him. Jesus said, "All authority on heaven and earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always to the end of the age."

Lord Jesus, you send us to bring the good news to all the world. **Alleluia!**

In courage we give you praise and glory. **Alleluia!**

Lord Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. **Alleluia!**

9. The Coming of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2: 1-13

[Light the ninth (red) candle]

When the day of Pentecost came the disciples were gathered together when suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of wind and it filled the entire house. Tongues of fire appeared and rested on each of them and they were filled with the Holy Spirit. A crowd had gathered outside the house, people from every nation. The disciples came out and spoke to them in their own languages. The people were amazed and wondered, "What can this mean?"

Lord Jesus, you give us your Holy Spirit. **Alleluia!**

In boldness we give you praise and glory. **Alleluia!**

Lord Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. **Alleluia!**

Stations of Glory

Easter is not just a weekend, it's a whole season! It begins on Easter Sunday and runs through to Pentecost, seven weeks in duration. The colour gold or white is used during this time to signify the glory of the Lord and our joy in the resurrection. It is a time when we, as a Church, focus on the promises of Jesus to save us from evil and be with us in our lives.

Materials

- 8 unlit white candles
- 1 red candle (or a white one with red ribbon on it)
- Matches
- Gold/white cloth
- Handout



Set up

Arrange the nine unlit candles around the family candle on the cloth. Light the family candle only. For each station, a reader announces the station and a candle is lit. The reader can either read the story from the bible or use the abridged versions here. After the reading, the reader leads the prayer to which all respond: Alleluia! By the end of the last station, all candles will be lit, including the red one which signifies Pentecost. Conclude your prayer with spontaneous prayers of thanks and praise, followed by the great prayer of praise, The Gloria, or a stirring praise hymn. Be sure to continue the celebration with a party!

Prayer

[Make the Sign of the Cross]

Leader: Lord God, we gather to give you praise and glory, for you have risen from the darkness and brought us into your light.

All: Alleluia! Alleluia!



[Offer spontaneous prayers of praise and thanks. Then say the Gloria (or a Glory Be) or sing a favourite Praise song. Make the Sign of the Cross]

Party Time!



Scripture adaptations based on the NRSV. Authors: Byron & Francine Pirola. This handout is one of a series designed to help families develop traditions that encourage faith and family life. It may be reproduced for non-commercial purposes only.

1. The Empty Tomb

Lk 24:1-12

[Light the first candle]

On the first day of the week, before dawn, the women went to the tomb with the spices they had prepared. There they found that the stone had been rolled away. When they went in, they did not find the body and were perplexed. Suddenly, two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and fell to the ground. But the men said, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen as he said." They ran to tell the others what they had seen and heard, but the disciples did not believe them. Peter ran to the tomb and saw the empty tomb and was amazed.

Lord Jesus, you rose from the dead. **Alleluia!**

In wonder we give you praise and glory. **Alleluia!**

Lord Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. **Alleluia!**

2. Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene

Jn 20:11-18

[Light the second candle]

Mary stood weeping outside the tomb when she turned and saw Jesus, though she did not know that it was him. He said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener she replied, "Sir, if you have taken him, tell me where you have laid him and I will take him away." Jesus said, "Mary!" and she knew he was Jesus.

Lord Jesus, you showed yourself to your disciple, Mary. **Alleluia!**

In joy we give you praise and glory. **Alleluia!**

Lord Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. **Alleluia!**

3. Jesus appears to the disciples

Jn 20:19-31

[Light the third candle]

On the evening of the first day of the week, the disciples gathered and locked the doors for they were afraid of the people. Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And breathing on them he said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven. If you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Lord Jesus, you give us your mercy and peace. **Alleluia!**

In gratitude we give you praise and glory. **Alleluia!**

Lord Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. **Alleluia!**

4. Thomas believes

Jn 20:24-29

[Light the fourth candle]

Thomas, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the others told him what had happened, he refused to believe. "Unless I see the mark of the nails and can put my finger in the holes, I will not believe." A week later, the disciples were gathered again with Thomas when Jesus stood among them. "Peace be with you" he said. And turning to Thomas he said, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Do not doubt any longer, but believe." Thomas answered, "My Lord and My God!" Jesus replied, "You believe because you have seen me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet still believe."

Lord Jesus, you showed yourself to Thomas. **Alleluia!**

In faith we give you praise and glory. **Alleluia!**

Lord Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. **Alleluia!**

5. The disciples at Emmaus

Lk 24:1-48

[Light the fifth candle]

Two of the disciples were walking to Emmaus when Jesus joined them though they did not recognise him. He asked, "What are you talking about?" Looking sad, they explained the terrible things that had happened to Jesus, how he was hoped to be the Messiah but had been put to death. Jesus explained to them the scriptures and how they foretold of his suffering. Later, when they were at table he took the bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognised him but he vanished from their sight.

Lord Jesus, you nourish us with your word and with your body and blood. **Alleluia!**

In hope we give you praise and glory. **Alleluia!**

Lord Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. **Alleluia!**

6. Breakfast at the sea of Tiberias

Jn 21:1-19

[Light the sixth candle]

The disciples went fishing but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach and called to them "Have you no fish? Cast your net to the right side of the boat." And doing so, they caught so many fish that they could not haul it in. John said, "It is the Lord!" and Simon Peter jumped into the sea and swam ashore. There Jesus had a charcoal fire and was cooking fish and bread. "Come and have breakfast" he said.

Lord Jesus, you nourish us in body and soul. **Alleluia!**

In eagerness we give you praise and glory. **Alleluia!**

Lord Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. **Alleluia!**

