**Cobh and Glanmire Union of Parishes**

11th April, 2020

*Easter Eve – The Great Vigil*

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**THE VIGIL**

*The room being in darkness all gather around the candle.*

On this most holy night,

when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life, the Church invites her children throughout the world to come together in vigil and prayer.

This is the Passover of the Lord.

We remember his death and resurrection

confident that we and all the faithful departed

shall share his victory over death

and live with him for ever in God.

*The candle is lit*

Eternal God,

who made this most holy night

to shine with the brightness of your one true light: set us aflame with the fire of your love,

and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,

banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

The Light of Christ

**Thanks be to God**

This is the night when Jesus Christ vanquished hell, broke the chains of death

and rose triumphant from the grave.

**Glory to you forever.**

This is the night when all who believe in him are freed from sin,

restored to grace and holiness,

and share the victory of Christ

**Glory to you forever.**

This is the night that gave us back what we had lost; beyond our deepest dreams

you made even our sin a happy fault.

**Glory to you forever**

Most blessed of all nights!

When hatred is put to flight, peace and justice find a home and heaven is joined to earth

**Glory to you forever.**

Therefore, heavenly Father, in this our Easter joy accept our praise, your Church’s solemn offering. Grant that this Easter Candle may make our darkness light.

**THE EASTER ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia!**

*Lights are switched on. Rejoice!*

**THE EXULTET**

*The Exsultet (the most ancient song of Easter praise known to the church)*

**Sing, choirs of heaven! Let saints and angels sing!**

**Around God’s throne exult in harmony!**

**Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave!**

**Salute your King in glorious symphony!**

**Sing, choirs of earth! Behold, your light has come!**

**The glory of the Lord shines radiantly!**

**Lift up your hearts, for Christ has conquered death!**

**The night is past, the day of life is here!**

**Sing, Church of God! Exult with joy outpoured!**

**The gospel trumpets tell of victory won!**

**Your Saviour lives; he’s with you evermore!**

**Let all God’s people sound the long Amen!**

**THE COLLECT**

God of glory,

by the raising of your Son

you have broken the chains of death and hell:

fill your Church with faith and hope;

for a new day has dawned

and the way to life stands open

in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING THE WORD**

**THE GOSPEL**

Alleluia, Christ is Risen

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ according to Luke, Chapter 24 beginning at verse 1.

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. 2They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3but when they went in, they did not find the body. 4While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. 5The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the mensaid to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. 6Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, 7that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” 8Then they remembered his words, 9and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. 10Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. 11But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. 12But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**He has given us new life and hope.**

**He has raised Jesus from the dead.**

God has claimed us as his own.

**He has brought us out of darkness.**

**He has made us light to the world.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**