



EASTER VIGIL

Gather in anticipation of Our Lord's Resurrection. Discuss and contemplate on the readings. One beautiful tradition is reading these around a fire.

1st Reading - Genesis 1:1-2:2 or Genesis 1:1. 26-31A **2nd Reading** - Genesis 22:1-18 or Genesis 22:1-2, 9A, 10-13, 15-18 **3rd Reading** - Exodus 14:15-15:1 **4th Reading** - Isaiah 54:5-14 **5th Reading** - Isaiah 55:1-11
6th Reading - Baruch 3:9-15, 32C4:4 **7th Reading** - Ezekiel 36:16-17A, 18-29 **Epistle** - Romans 6:3-11

Gospel - Matthew 28:1-10

Bishop Barron's Reflection – “,,,Jesus goes into the kingdom of death and brings to that dark place the light of God,,,he brings the power of God, and with this power, he breaks the hold that death has over us,,,Thus the Resurrection of Jesus is the declaration of victory over this terrible power, In all of the Gospel accounts, mention is made of the huge stone rolled across the entrance of Jesus' tomb. This seems to stand for the awful finality of death, the irreversible, dense facticity of it. It seems to be that power that can never be countered or gainsaid. But in Jesus' victory, that stone is effortlessly rolled away.

The power that has held us ransom has been overthrown; the dark cloud that has brooded over our lives, turning us in on ourselves and outward in violence, has been removed. With Paul, we can mock the former lord of the world: “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” “