

EASTER WITH

**CELEBRATE**  
HOME



## WAYS TO CONNECT

We have suggested resources that may be more or less appropriate for different age groups. Look out for the **depthometer** to get a gauge on how suitable the activity will be for the members of your family.

# RESURRECTION JOY!

### Easter Greetings from CELEBRATE!

St Augustine reminds us that we are an Easter people. We know that the cross was not the end, but that after three days Jesus rose from the dead! Alleluia! It is so good to be able to say that word again. So how do we live out this joy filled season with our children? We have packed this issue full of ideas - feel free to use whatever suits your family best.

**Connect to Church:** When you are in church over Eastertide, you might like to ask your children to find signs of Easter in your parish - can they hear joyful singing, the Resurrection accounts in the Gospel readings and accounts of the Acts of the Apostles and spot items like Easter flowers and the Pascal candle?

**Connect to everyday life:** You might like to discuss with your children how Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection has brought us new life and hope in Him. We can also relate this to our everyday lives. When sad things happen to us, when we suffer, if we focus on Jesus and offer our suffering to Him then He will lift us up and fill us with His hope and love. Jesus, our King and Saviour, is indeed the source of our joy and hope!

With best wishes for a blessed Easter,

Claire

*Children and Family Lead*

PRAY

A Novena at Easter from the Friars at Aylesford to pray with your family:

**Loving God, we thank and praise you with joy this Easter season for your Son's resurrection. By His rising from the dead, He has defeated death and opened the gates of heaven for us. In your love for us, give us the hope and courage to approach all our problems with faith so that we may rise to everlasting life with Christ and see You face to face in glory.**

**Amen.**

Why not learn this prayer to the Holy Spirit as we journey together towards the birthday of the Church:

**"Come Holy Spirit,  
fill the hearts of your faithful  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.  
Send forth your Spirit  
and they shall be created.  
And You shall renew the face of the  
earth."**

Help children develop an attitude of gratitude! Start a family thank you journal - each person can enter a thank you in the journal each day. Start your own family journal, or try one from Hope and Ginger - [click here to view resource](#) or view on our website

REFLECT

### Sensory retelling of the Gospels

Why not read or retell the Gospel accounts of the Resurrection using visual aids? Here is an idea for The Empty Tomb (Luke 24:1-12). When the women go to the tomb with spices, you could hand around some spices to smell. Find a round stone to feel for when the women see the stone has been rolled away. You could use two Play Mobil figures for the angels (perhaps give them white cloaks). You could shake your head in disbelief when the disciples do not believe the women. And you could hand around a strip of white cloth/clean white pillow case for the linen cloths.

Alternatively, have fun making this set of figures to retell the resurrection story - [click here for via the link on the website](#)

All resource links can be found on the **CELEBRATE website** in the download page for this pack.



## BOOK CORNER



**The Joyful Meeting** tells the story of Easter morning for children through the eyes of Mary.

**50 Days of Freedom** a book for adults which is developed to accompany you as you journey to Pentecost.

**The Garden, the Curtain and the Cross** by Carl Laferton tells the story of why Jesus died and rose again and how you can be part of the story.

## MAKE TIME FOR JOYFUL WORSHIP

## FAMILY TIME

Consider when a time of family worship might work best for your family, for example, when you are washing up, on a car journey or in family prayers 😊.

Why not try out our worship suggestions?

- Sparkle, Pop, Rampage. - Rend Collective
- Let it Sound (album) - One Hope Project
- You (album) - One Hope Project
- I Thank God - Maverick City Music

## JOY FILLED CHILDREN'S LITURGY



Are your children missing children's liturgy? Try out the brilliant children's liturgies this Eastertide from

**Colour and Shape** on their You Tube channel

(click here or view link on our website)

"Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise."  
Hebrews 13:15a

## MOVIE NIGHT



- **Jesus storybook volume 4 (U)** - Jesus' Stories, Miracles, Easter, Paul and Heaven
- **Risen (12A)** (in case you didn't get to watch this before!) The story of the Resurrection told through the eyes of a non-believer. Great for older teens and adults. **Parental Guidance needed**
- **The Cross** - Billy Graham, in one of his final recordings, brings a timeless message of hope and redemption. - **Parental Guidance needed**
- **The Chosen, Season 2** - being released on Easter Sunday, this is a great series to watch with the family about the life of Jesus. - **Parental Guidance needed**

**The flowering cross** - Have fun decorating your front door with Easter flowers around the cross as a sign that the cross is not the end of the story! [Click here](#) or the link on our website.

Why not take a photo and post it to our [Facebook group](#)?



## WHAT IS CELEBRATE?



## MAKE

**How about getting crafty this Easter and painting eggs?** See our suggestion of how to do this with children by [clicking here](#) or the link on our website.



You can also find out more about this beautiful Easter custom developed in other countries by [clicking here](#) or via the link on our website!

**Easter Garden Craft**  
Try making an Easter Garden together. There are lots of examples on Pinterest, and we have found some helpful ideas from a U.K. parish - [click here](#) for via the link on the website.



Why not take a photo and post it to our [Facebook group](#)?

## Bake off at Easter with Resurrection cookies!

We have found this recipe developed in the US that will help you talk to your children about the resurrection! [Click here](#) or check the link on our website.



CELEBRATE is a Catholic ministry, that provides conferences, resources and other events for the formation and teaching of an intergenerational audience whose main focus is family.

CELEBRATE's vision is to inspire and equip people of all ages to live an authentic Christian life today, for the renewal of the Catholic Church and the building of God's Kingdom on earth.

You can find more information and resources like this on our website

[www.celebratetrust.org](http://www.celebratetrust.org)

We'd love to hear from you! Join the CELEBRATE community on our [Facebook](#), or get in touch via email: [info@celebratetrust.org](mailto:info@celebratetrust.org)