A Reading from the Gospel of John 20:1-9:  
The Empty Tomb

On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, “They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don’t know where they put him.” So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead.
1. Who was the first to see the empty tomb? How did this person react?

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2. Who were the next two people to visit the empty tomb?

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3. Summarize what happened during their visit to the tomb. What is significant about their visit in regards to helping us understand the structure of the Church?

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4. What would have been your reaction if you witnessed this event? Explain.

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Celebrate Christ’s Resurrection!

**Directions:** Jesus is Risen! Alleluia! During your Easter break, try some of the following ideas to celebrate Christ’s Resurrection at home with your family and friends.

1. Re-read the Gospel story of Christ’s Resurrection together with your family and then talk about what Easter is and what it means that Jesus rose from the dead for us.

2. Show your love for your parents or sibling by doing an extra chore around the house without being asked.

3. Spend some time outside and reflect on the beauty of God’s creation.

4. Tell a friend about Jesus and how He died and rose again for us.

5. Draw a picture of the Risen Jesus on Easter Sunday and display it in your home.

6. Watch a movie with your family about a Bible story such as *The Ten Commandments*, *Prince of Egypt*, or *Jesus of Nazareth*. What was your favorite part of the movie? Why?

7. Create a list of ten things that you can thank God for. Read the list every night before bed and tell God how thankful you are for the good things He has given you.
8. Spend time in prayer talking with God.

9. Read the different Gospel stories of the Resurrection of Jesus. They can be found in the following passages:
   - Matthew 28
   - Mark 16
   - Luke 24
   - John 20-21

How are the four stories of Jesus’ Resurrection similar? How are they different? What did you learn that surprised you?

Imagine that you were one of the Apostles when the Risen Jesus first appeared to them. What would you have felt? What would you have thought? Say a prayer to Jesus and thank Him for all that He has done for you.

10. Go to the Easter Vigil Mass. Rejoice with the new Christians who become members of the Church family through Baptism.

   And of course ... go to Easter Sunday Mass with your family!