The Joy of Easter
Easter Sunday

Lower Elementary

Materials
- Handout A: Gospel Reading for April 4, 2021
- Handout B: Easter Morning
- Handout C: Celebrate Christ’s Resurrection

Learning Goals
In the Gospel for Easter Sunday, we read about Mary Magdalene and two Apostles finding Jesus’ tomb empty on the first Easter morning. In this lesson students will celebrate the most important feast in the life of the Church, Christ’s Resurrection.

Gospel Reflection
A. Read the Gospel passage aloud to your students as they follow along. Then discuss the focus questions with them as a class.
B. You may also choose to assign your students to read the Gospel passage at home with their parents over Easter Vacation and discuss the focus questions together.

Activity
Have your students take home Handout B: Easter Morning to color and to think about Christ’s Resurrection on Easter (or you may have them color it in class) and Handout C: Celebrate Christ’s Resurrection during their Easter vacation. Encourage them to consider celebrating Christ’s Resurrection using the ways listed. Then, after you return from Easter vacation, consider having students share stories about the various ways they celebrated Easter.
Answer Key

Handout A: Gospel Reading for April 4, 2021

1. Mary of Magdala. She ran to share the news with the Peter and John.

2. Peter and John. Although John is not mentioned by name, tradition tells us that the disciple who is referred to as: “The Disciple whom Jesus loved” throughout the Gospel of John is John.

3. Peter and John both ran to the tomb but John got there first. Even though John arrived first, he waited for Peter to enter before he did. This fact points to the fact that Peter had a primacy among the Twelve from the very beginning. It is Scriptural support for Peter as the first Pope and that the Church is hierarchical.

4. Accept reasoned answers.