The Joy of Easter
EASTER SUNDAY

Upper and Middle Elementary

Materials
- Handout A: Gospel Reading for April 4, 2021
- Handout B: A Good Lent
- 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 reflect on their Lenten Journey and celebrate the most important feast in the life of the Church, Christ’s Resurrection.

Gospel Reflection
A. Have students read the Gospel passage, or read it aloud to your students, and then answer the focus questions. You may have students answer them on their own or you may discuss them together as a class. Review and discuss the correct answers when finished.

B. Or assign your students to read the Gospel passage at home with their parents over Easter Vacation and discuss the focus questions together.

Activity
A. Have your students complete Handout B: A Good Lent and answer the reflection questions. When finished, call on students to share and discuss some of the ways that being a faithful Christian can be hard. You may also assign students to complete the activity at home with their parents over Easter vacation.

B. Have your students take home 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.
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.