

Instructions specific to the Service of light at home on Easter Eve.

- We should dedicate a good part of Holy Saturday to preparing a truly unforgettable celebration. It's worth the effort.
- Ideally, the participants should eat a light dinner, or a simple snack (under a regime of fasting and abstinence) so as to begin the celebration half an hour after sunset.
- It's a good idea to plan a festive snack with hot chocolate, pastries, muffins, etc. for after the celebration. It's the most beautiful celebration of the year.
Hallelujah!
- During these times of confinement, it would not be out of place to open a bottle of champagne, given the importance of celebrating the definitive victory of Christ, our brother and our God, over the powers of Evil and Death.

Practical considerations:

- If possible, set aside in different room than the one where the prayer corner is located: a matchbox, a large candle [you could make your own Easter / Paschal Candle], and one candle per person.
- Ideally, there should be at least one candle that can last the entire duration of the celebration, to serve as a "paschal candle."
- Participants who do not have candles will be able to hold their smartphone, in "airplane" mode and with the lamp lit. They will carry them in their joined hands. A flashlight can also do the trick.
- In any case, a smartphone with a lighted lamp can be used to read the texts in the dark.
- Throughout Good Saturday, the prayer corner is kept unadorned, with only the cross, as on Good Friday. However, all the decorations that will be put back in place during the Easter Vigil should be placed next to it: statues, pictures, icons, candles, flowers, etc. To increase the festive character, you can prepare children's drawings, paper flowers, decorated eggs, etc. to include in the decoration of the space; and even—why not—beautiful golden Christmas garlands can be added.
- Well in advance, the person designated to lead the celebration will carefully take note of the practical indications given here and throughout the liturgy (see below). This will prevent any doubts or improvisation in the course of the liturgy.
- Try to find a small bell to ring during the recitation of the *Gloria*. If no bell is found, you can search on your smartphone for the natural sound of the bells and, you can make the available smartphones ring before and after the *Gloria*.
- You can either print this guide or use your mobile, tablet, laptop, or pc during the celebration.

For those with access to a yard or garden:

- In a place where there is no risk of the fire spreading, prepare a brazier or a large bowl. In it, place paper, some twigs, and some pieces of dry wood.
- It's not recommended to make a large fire. If the weather is windy, it is better not to light the fire. Please think of your neighbours though you could invite them to join you over the garden fence.

- You should have a bucket of water and a blanket nearby in case you have to put out the fire.

General instructions:

- This celebration requires the presence of at least two people.
- If you're alone, it is better to simply read the readings and prayers or join with a neighbour over the garden fence.
- This celebration is particularly suitable for use with family. In order to respect quarantine measures, you should refrain from inviting others from outside your household. If anyone in your house is ill, make sure they remain in isolation to ensure that all safety guidelines are strictly followed.
- Set up the needed number of chairs in front of a prayer corner, respecting distance between them.
- A simple cross or crucifix must always be visible in the background.
- Designate a person to lead the prayer.
- The leader also directs the preparation of the celebration, and will also determine the length of the periods of silence during the same.
- Designate readers for the readings.
- Prepare appropriate hymns.

