

Queen of Heaven/Regina Coeli

This prayer may be prayed each day instead of the Angelus during the Easter Season, that is, from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday.

Queen of heaven, rejoice, Alleluia.

Regina coeli, Laetare, alleluia

For he whom you were worthy to bear, Alleluia.

Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.

Has risen as he said, Alleluia.

Resurrexit sicut dixit, alleluia.

Pray for us to God, Alleluia.

Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia

For the Lord has truly risen, Alleluia.

Let us pray,

O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech you, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.



40/3/50

The **40** days of Lent are followed by the **3** most sacred days (the Easter Triduum) of Jesus' Last Supper with his apostles, his suffering death and resurrection. St. Augustine spoke of "the most holy triduum of the crucified, buried and risen Lord." These are followed by the **50** days of celebrating Easter, that is, a week of weeks—49 days, and on the 50th day we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit,

Trocaire Boxes 2026. Rwanda.

Please continue to return your Trocaire Box. As this year's campaign reminds us that the Trocaire Box is not just a box, it's a lifeline.

Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

This novena begins on Monday, 13th April at 7.30pm, and will continue for nine Mondays at 7.30pm each Monday. No 9.30am Mass on Mondays during the novena. 'Mother of Perpetual Help, with the greatest confidence we come before your holy picture to be inspired by the example of your life.' Novena Prayer.

St. Francis de Sales says: 'Let us run to Mary and, as her little children, cast ourselves into her arms with a perfect confidence'. Like Jesus safe in the arms of his mother Mary in the Icon of our Mother of Perpetual Help, St. Francis de Sales advises to run to the safety of Mary's arms and bring our needs to her with a perfect confidence.

**Parishes of St. Mary's, Dungarvan, An Rinn
and Sean Phobal, Kilgobinet, Colligan and
Kilbrien**



April 2026

Christ is risen, alleluia!

Dear brothers and sisters, Happy Easter!

Today at last, the singing of the "alleluia" is heard once more in the Church, passing from mouth to mouth, from heart to heart, and this makes the people of God throughout the world shed tears of joy.

From the empty tomb in Jerusalem, we hear unexpected good news: Jesus, who was crucified, "is not here, he has risen" (Lk 24:5). Jesus is not in the tomb, he is alive!

Christ is risen! These words capture the whole meaning of our existence, for we were not made for death but for life. **Easter is the celebration of life! God created us for life and wants the human family to rise again! In his eyes, every life is precious!** The life of a child in the mother's womb, as well as the lives of the elderly and the sick, who in more and more countries are looked upon as people to be discarded.

What a great thirst for death, for killing, we witness each day in the many conflicts raging in different parts of our world! How much violence we see, often even within families, directed at women and children! How much contempt is stirred up at times towards the vulnerable, the marginalized, and migrants!

In the Lord's Paschal Mystery, death and life contended in a stupendous struggle, but the Lord now lives forever (cf. *Easter Sequence*). **He fills us with the certainty that we too are called to share in the life that knows no end, when the clash of arms and the rumble of death will be heard no more.** Let us entrust ourselves to him, for he alone can make all things new (cf. *Rev. 21:5*)! **Happy Easter to everyone!**

**From Pope Francis' final Easter Message to the City and the World,
Easter Sunday, 20th April 2025.**



From Pope Leo XIV's First Message to the City and to the World on the evening of his election as Pope. St. Peter's Basilica, Rome, 8/5/2025.

Peace be with you all!

Dear brothers and sisters, these are the first words spoken by the risen Christ, the Good Shepherd who laid down his life for God's flock. I would like this greeting of peace to resound in your hearts, in your families, among all people, wherever they may be, in every nation and throughout the world. Peace be with you!

It is the peace of the risen Christ. A peace that is unarmed and disarming, humble and persevering. **A peace that comes from God, the God who loves us all, unconditionally.**

We can still hear the faint yet ever courageous voice of Pope Francis as he blessed Rome, the Pope who blessed Rome, who gave his blessing to the world, the whole world, on the morning of Easter. Allow me to extend that same blessing: God loves us, God loves you all, and evil will not prevail! All of us are in God's hands. So, let us move forward, without fear, together, hand in hand with God and with one another! We are followers of Christ. Christ goes before us. The world needs his light. Humanity needs him as the bridge that can lead us to God and his love. **Help us, one and all, to build bridges through dialogue and encounter, joining together as one people, always at peace. Thank you, Pope Francis!**



**Jubilee Year of St Francis of Assisi
1226 - 2026**



In January 2026, the Church began a rare commemoration: 800 years since the passing of Saint Francis of Assisi. Known as the Transitus, the saint's death on 3rd October 1226, now anchors a Franciscan Jubilee Year running from January 10th, 2026, through January 10th, 2027.

Pope Leo has already referred to St Francis' anniversary on a number of occasions, notably in his address to diplomats from all over the globe, explaining that St Francis appeals even to non-Catholics and is a model for seeking peace in a world so plagued by conflict. This coming October will mark the eight century of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi, a man of peace and dialogue, universally recognized even by those who do not belong to the Catholic Church. His life shines brightly, for it was inspired by the courage to live in truth, and the knowledge that a peaceful world is built starting with humble hearts turned towards the heavenly city. St Francis' death came not in triumph but in surrender. His final gesture - letting go of everything, even the garment that marked his religious life -

continues to resonate in a world shaped by conflict, ecological strain, and anxiety about security.

Franciscans see the jubilee as a call to conversion, simplicity, and peace. The Jubilee echoes Pope Francis' repeated appeals for reconciliation, care for creation and a Church marked by humility rather than power - themes deeply rooted in the legacy of Assisi's most famous son.

The Prayer of Pope Leo for the Special Jubilee Year of Saint Francis.

Saint Francis our brother, you who eight hundred years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us with the Lord. In the Cross of San Damiano you recognised true peace. Teach us to seek in Christ the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall. You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world erects borders, in this time plagued by conflict and division, intercede so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ. Amen.

A Prayer to Live Francis' Gospel Vision

Lord Jesus Christ, who called Francis to follow in your footsteps, giving him a heart capable of mercy and eyes to see your face in the poor and in the Crucified One, open our hearts to your Word. Send your Holy Spirit so that we can understand the precious legacy that Francis left us and we too can live according to the form of the holy Gospel. Amen.

(intercom, April 2026 p:15)

4th Sunday of Easter, 26th April 2026: Good Shepherd Sunday.

Day of Prayer for Vocations.

A vocation, therefore, is not an immediate possession — something “given” once and for all. Instead, it is a path that unfolds much like life itself. The gift we have received must not only be protected but also nourished by a daily relationship with God in order to grow and bear fruit. Dear brothers and sisters, dear young people, I encourage you to cultivate your personal relationship with God through daily prayer and meditation on the Word. Pause, listen and entrust yourselves. In this way, the gift of your vocation will mature, bringing you happiness and yielding abundant fruit for the Church and the world. **(From Pope Leo XIV's Message on the occasion of the 63rd World Day of Prayer for Vocations)**