

## 19 Jesus Was Raised to New Life

“He is not here; for he has risen, as he said.  
Come, see the place where he lay.”

Matthew 28:6

On the third day after Jesus died, something wonderful happened. Jesus rose from the dead, which means that He came back to life! That day was the very first **Easter Sunday**. We call this great miracle the **Resurrection**.

Mary and the Apostles were so happy to see Jesus alive again. And we are glad that our Savior is alive too. Because Jesus rose from the dead, we too can share in His life and live forever!

At Mass on Easter Sunday we sing joyful songs that praise and thank God:

“The Lord is Risen!”

“**Alleluia!** Alleluia! Alleluia!”

Jesus won the gift of grace for us so now we, too, can come back to life after we die. We will go to Heaven to be with Jesus. One day, our bodies will also rise from the dead and be with us in Heaven too. Because Jesus rose from the dead with His body, we know we will be able to live with Jesus in Heaven—body and soul.

**Words to Know:**

Easter

Alleluia

Resurrection



**Q. 40** *After His death, what did Jesus do?*

After His death, Jesus rose again from the dead, taking up His body that had been buried (CCC 646).

**Q. 41** *How long did the body of Jesus remain buried?*

The body of Jesus remained buried from Friday evening to the day that we now call Easter Sunday (CCC 639).



## 20 Jesus Begins the Church

“And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”

Matthew 16:18

Jesus was alive and with His Apostles again. But He was going to go up to Heaven. Jesus wanted all people to know the Good News of God’s love. He wanted people to know Him and He wanted His work to continue on earth. To continue His work, He started His **Church**.

People who belong to the Church can learn about Jesus and receive the gift of grace. He continues to work in and through the Church, so we can come to know His love for us.

Jesus made His Apostles the leaders of His Church and they were the first **bishops**. Then He named **Peter** the head of the Apostles and the very first **Pope**. Do you know who your Pope and bishop are?

**Q. 42** *What is the Church?*

The Church is the group of baptized persons who profess the Catholic Faith and come together to worship God.

(CCC 751–52).

**Q. 43** *By whom was the Church founded?*

The Church was founded by Jesus Christ

(CCC 763–66).

**Q. 44** *Who is the Pope?*

The Pope is the successor of Saint Peter.

He is the visible head of the Catholic Church (CCC 882).