

**WAY OF RESURRECTION,
WAY OF LIGHT**

Via lucis

Note: For a better participation by everyone, this "Way of Light" will be illustrated with drawings/illustrated panels or by living tableaux.

Entry song

Initial monition

Jesus is risen! Lord, open our eyes and our hearts so that we may understand this great message: love is the victor. The tombstone did not hold Jesus; the guards could not keep him; death did not have the final word. Beaten, crucified, pierced with a lance and returned to his mother, he was placed in a new tomb... that wasn't even his own. But on the third day, he triumphed over suffering and death.

Let us pray to enter this mystery, the central mystery of our faith.

1 – The women at the tomb (Mk 16, 1-8)

Priest/leader: We worship you, Risen Jesus, and bless you.

All: **Through your Paschal journey, you have given life to the world.**

When the Sabbath was over, very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. They asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! Go, tell his disciples and Peter", Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb.

Glory to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, as he was in the beginning, now and forever, Amen.

Song (only a chorus)

Reflection/prayer: Let us have the courage to leave the tomb where we shut away sin to joyfully embrace the new life that the Risen one offers us; let us respond to the call of the Apostle: "Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead and Christ will shine on you" (Ep 5,14).

2 – Peter and John go to the tomb (Jn 20, 3-9)

Priest/leader: We worship you, Risen Jesus, and bless you.

All: **Through your Paschal journey, you have given life to the world.**

So Peter and John ran to the tomb. John reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Peter arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen. John also went inside. He saw and believed. They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead. Filled with wonder, they returned home.

Glory to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, as he was in the beginning, now and forever, Amen.

Song (only a chorus)

Reflection/prayer: Lord, like Peter and John, we want to share the Good News without delay.

3 – Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene (Jn 20, 11-18)

Then the disciples went back to their homes, but Mary went back to the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white. They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?" "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. "Woman," he said, "why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" which means "Teacher". She wanted to touch him, but Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God'" Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

Glory to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, as he was in the beginning, now and forever, Amen.

Song (only a chorus)

Reflection/prayer: Give us, Lord, the faith and love of Mary Magdalene, so that we can go from the old to the new life, to experience your mercy whilst listening to our brothers and sisters.

4 – Jesus walks with the disciples to Emmaus (Lk 24, 13-29)

Now that same day, two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus. Jesus himself came up and walked along with them but they were kept from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Do you not know the things that have happened in these days?" "What things?" Jesus asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, Mary Magdalene and some of our women have declared that he is alive. Peter and John went to the tomb, but him they did not see."

And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, Jesus explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. As they approached the village, Jesus acted as if he were going farther. They urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

Glory to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, as he was in the beginning, now and forever, Amen.

Song (only a chorus)

Reflection/prayer: Jesus, our friend, may you can always be with us and guide us on the road to the Kingdom in our pilgrimage.

5 – Jesus reveals himself in the breaking of the bread (Lk 24, 30-35)

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then they recognized him, "It is Jesus!" But he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen." Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread

Glory to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, as he was in the beginning, now and forever, Amen.

Song (only a chorus)

Reflection/prayer: Jesus, by receiving you in the Eucharist bread, give us the grace to know how to share the plentiful life that your Body and Blood brings us.

6 – Jesus confirms the faith of Thomas (Jn 20, 24-29)

In the evening, Jesus came and stood among the disciples. They were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. He said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven. "

Thomas was not with the disciples when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Glory to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, as he was in the beginning, now and forever, Amen.

Song (only a chorus)

Reflection/prayer: Give us the grace Lord, to understand that, today, we too are sent to take your message of joy and salvation to all our brothers and sisters.

7 – Jesus sends his disciples on a mission (Mt 28, 16-20)

The eleven disciples went to a mountain in Galilee. Jesus came to the disciples and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Glory to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, as he was in the beginning, now and forever, Amen.

Song (only a chorus)

Reflection/prayer: Jesus, we pray that the love of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit flows from our hearts to our brothers and sisters. Remain with us, help us to respond to your call. Let us share in your joy.

The priest/leader can invite participants with a candle to light the Paschal candle whilst he, carrying out this *traditio lucis*, says to each one (or to the community, using the formula):

“Go and carry the light of the Risen Christ to your brothers and sisters.”

All respond: **Amen.**

Final song

Other proposals can be found on the following sites:

it: <http://www.maranatha.it/via/lucis/lucoverpage.htm>
<http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/resource.php?n=487>