



Let Me Count the Ways ...

Nothing represents God's never-ending abundance to His children like a nest of bunnies! Although not biblical, bunnies, chicks, ducks, jelly beans and mounds of chocolate are traditional signs of God's goodness to us!

How Can We Show Our Goodness to God and Others?

Here are some ideas!



Visit the Sick: An important Work of Mercy which brightens a sick person's day and lets them know that they are still important. That they are loved!



Give to the poor: Gather up outgrown toys and clothing to give to those in need. Share the joy of giving!



Plant a garden: Help plant a garden with flowers or vegetables in your community, at your school or in your own yard. God calls us to help care for the earth!



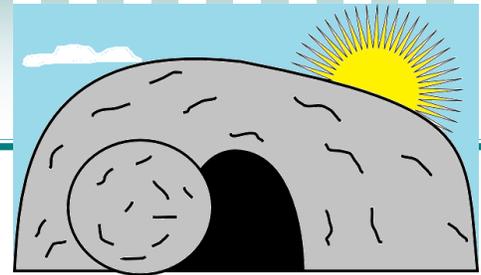
Pick up trash: Work with an adult to keep the community clean and tidy. Don't forget to recycle!



Light a candle at church: Remember to put a donation in the collection box when you light a candle for someone you love or a favorite intention.



Make a sun catcher together: Follow the link for some craft ideas you can do with your children!
<http://tinyurl.com/q4emyul>



Season of Easter On the Run

by

Beth Belcher

Have you ever longed to spend time in nature after being inside during a particularly cold winter? Or enjoyed the twittering of birds as the trees begin to blossom and the days grow longer? We seem to become more cheerful as springtime slowly brings the warmth of the sun, flowers blooming and new life in nature. And we joyfully anticipate the springtime holy day, Easter, which brings to mind the Easter Bunny, colored eggs and the empty tomb as Jesus has risen from the dead. At Eastertime the phrase, 'Alleluia, He is Risen!' reminds believers that not only has Christ risen from the dead, but that He has conquered sin and death. We can live in confidence that the gates of heaven have been opened for us by the love of God through His Son, Jesus and his ultimate sacrifice! How wonderful that God has offered us Jesus to save us and give us Himself through Holy Communion! We are graced by God's goodness through this most important feast day in our Church! Easter!

3 days

Highest Holy Days

The Triduum, Latin for “three days,” are special holy days in that they are not officially part of Lent, but lead us into the holy day of Easter, then ...

Happy Easter!

Now that the 40 days of Lenten sacrifice are over, and the RCIA candidates have been initiated at the Easter Vigil, we are ready to celebrate new life through the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead!



Modern Easter Traditions

We may see girls and boys in new Easter clothes, Easter baskets in the morning and Easter egg hunts or ‘rolls’ after Mass and maybe an Easter parade. Perhaps spring flowers and Easter lilies will be on the altar, or given as gifts to family members—all representing new life in Christ.



Christian or Pagan?

The day of Eostre, the traditional pagan springtime feast of new life was overshadowed by the Resurrection of Jesus. Many pagans began to understand that only Jesus could bring New Life! Conversions took place and the term Eostre became the new word, Easter, helping to show that the Truth transforms feast days and their names.



Timing is Everything

Easter’s date is determined by the first full moon after the vernal equinox (when the sun is directly over the equator) each year. Determined by the Council of Nicaea in 325, this helped pilgrims to travel by the light of the moon for Easter festivities!



What’s Happening?

50 days

The Easter Season:

Considered the “Great Fifty Days” from Easter Sunday to Pentecost, where we remember that we are a Resurrection People and strive to be happy and grateful for the sacrifice of Our Lord!

Easter Week:

The week directly after Easter which is a continuation of the Easter celebration, and hopefully your child will have candy from their Easter basket left by the end of the week!

Divine Mercy Sunday:



Called the 2nd Sunday of Easter, and celebrated the Sunday after Easter, it is St. John Paul the Great’s invitation for all believers to experience God’s mercy through this feast day.

Ascension of Our Lord:

Once celebrated on a Thursday, ten days before Pentecost, this feast day reminds us of Jesus ascending to His Father and giving us the Advocate, the Holy Spirit.

Pentecost:

 The day that the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles, in the form of tongues of fire, giving them Gifts, including courage. Due to this grace, this is the day the Church was born! Happy Birthday, don’t forget to wear red to Mass!

Every Sunday:

All Sundays in the Church calendar are considered a mini-Easter! We should celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus each week with special family time, just like we do at Eastertime!