

**Easter Vigil Homily**  
April 3, 2021  
Father Pierre Champoux

This evening marks the end of our Easter Triduum. On Holy Thursday, Jesus instituted the Eucharist and the priesthood, and gave us His example of loving service in the washing of the feet. On Good Friday, we venerated the cross, on which Jesus died for us, and we've stood vigil with our Blessed Mother Mary, near His tomb. Today, the greatest of all miracles has taken place! Jesus has smashed through the gates of death and is Risen from the dead!

In today's gospel, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome come to the empty tomb of Jesus, and see the angel guarding His tomb. They are given the task of declaring the good news to the apostles!

Before us today, stands the Easter candle, reminding us, that even in the darkest night of our lives, the light of Christ will overcome the greatest darkness, and any obstacle! On this day of the Resurrection, the demons are put to flight, the souls of the faithful departed are raised from the dead, and the gates of paradise are thrust open! May we recall this Word of Scripture, and make it our own:

*"This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!"*