

**Daily Bible Readings:**

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	John 21:1-19	Jesus appears to the disciples
Monday	Luke 5:1-11	Simon's catch of fish
Tuesday	1 John 4:7-19	Love for God
Wednesday	1 Peter 4:12 – 5:4	Shepherds of God's flock
Thursday	Revelation 5:1-10	The throne and the elders
Friday	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Jesus appeared to his followers
Saturday	Revelation 7:9-17	The Lamb who shepherds
Sunday	John 10:22-30	Jesus promises life to his sheep

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**Scripture Verses for the Week:**

Sing praises to the Lord, you who belong to him; praise his holy name. His anger lasts only a moment, but his kindness lasts for a lifetime. Crying may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning. - Psalm 30:4-5 (NCV)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

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**Prayer for this Week:**

I love you, Lord Jesus. Help me to care for others as you care for me. Amen. (John 21:15-17)

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**For Throughout the Day:**

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**A Blessing to Share:**

*May the Lord show you his mercy. May he take away your sadness and fill you with joy. Amen.*

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**Mealtime Refrain:**

Sing God's praises, you who belong to him:  
**Praise his holy name!** (Psalm 30:4)

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**Mealtime Prayer:**

*Lord of the empty tomb, as you fill our bodies with food, fill our lives with hope, and our hearts with love. Alleluia!*

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FOUR KEYS FOR THE HOME

**Faith Talk:**

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Have you ever let someone down or been let down? Share your story.
- How did Peter let Jesus down?
- In John 21:15-19 we read that Jesus asked Peter three questions. Why do you think he did this?
- Jesus gave Peter a new start. How has Jesus given you a new start?
- Do you find it hard or easy to give others a new start? Why?

**Devotional Practices:**

When Jesus appeared to his disciples after the resurrection they were fishing, and pulled in a net full of large fish (153, to be precise). In your home devotion times this week, share ways in which you have been blessed by God's presence in your lives e.g. "God blessed me today with ...". Write each response down on a fish-shaped piece of paper and place in a "net" (for this, perhaps use a large envelope marked with lines to resemble a net). See how many you "fish" you can collect over the week – you may even count 153! You might also consider sharing a breakfast of fish and bread during this week. Use the opportunity to talk about Christ's presence at your mealtable and God's provision for your daily needs.

**Service:**

This coming Thursday (April 22) will be observed by people across the world as Earth Day. As Christians, we believe that God has given humans a special responsibility of care for the earth and its environment. Talk together as household about how you can make a contribution to Earth Day, e.g. go for a walk to collect litter, plant a tree, support an organization preserving local wildlife.

**Rituals and Traditions:**

The fish has been used as a Christian symbol from the earliest times of the church. The Greek word for fish is "ixthus" or "ichthus." In the Greek language, the five letters making up the word form an acrostic for "Jesus Christ is God's Son, the Saviour." The first letter (i) represents the name "Jesus" in Greek; the second letter (x) the title "Christ"; the next two ("thu" in English) "God's Son"; and the final letter (s) the word Savior.

Many early Christians were put to death for practicing their faith, and so worshiped secretly in homes. A fish painted on the outside door of a house let other Christians know that they would be safe and welcome inside.

Make up an IXTHUS symbol to display at the entrance to your home as a sign of your faith in Jesus as your Savior.



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