

PASSOVER LITURGY

READER A: Today, we take part in the Passover Seder. It is a tradition celebrated by Jewish people as part of the Jewish Passover. The Passover celebrates the time when God, through Moses, led his people out of slavery.

STORY OF MOSES

READER A: We celebrate Passover to remember how God helped his people by leading them out of slavery. We remember that God keeps His promises. We also celebrate Passover because Jesus did! Traditionally one of the children asks the following questions to help us remember why Passover is so important.

CHILD 1: Why is this night different from all other nights?

READER B: Because we were once slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, but the Lord brought us out with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm.

CHILD 2: On this night, why do we eat only unleavened bread?

READER B: Biblical tradition says that the people had to leave Egypt so quickly that they did not have time to let the bread rise. So they made dough without yeast.

CHILD 3: On all other nights we eat all kinds of herbs, but this night only bitter herbs. Why do we dip them?

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READER B: Because this reminds us of the bitterness of slavery. On this night we dip into salt water to remind us of the tears. (children invited to dip herbs into salt water & eat)

READER A: At the Last Supper Jesus said the traditional blessing over the wine

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who makes the fruit of the vine.

and then He said:

Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Then Jesus blessed the bread

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who brings forth bread from the earth.

As he broke the bread and shared it with His disciples he said:

This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

READER B We remember that Jesus shares his love with us by giving us His body and blood to eat and drink every time we go to Mass. So Let us thank God for saving us – and pray together the prayer Jesus taught us. Our Father. Now let us share the unleavened bread