

Easter Day - Year ABC (Gospel of John)

- Finally! Finally after week after week after week of Lent
Finally we reach Easter morning
Finally we can sing out Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, – He Is Risen!

Finally we hear of the empty tomb.
Mary Magdala finds it first – she runs and tells Peter and John
They run to the tomb – John goes in first, sees the burial clothes, but doesn't go in
Peter gets there, goes into the tomb
He sees the burial clothes, and one rolled up in a separate place
Then John goes in – he sees – and he believes
(For they hadn't understood the Scriptures JC had to rise)

So – why does JC take the time to roll up the cloth that covered His head
Why does JC fold that napkin and put it to one side?

When a servant is serving his master, from time to time the master leaves
If he was done he'd just put his napkin down and servant knew to clean up
If he folded, or rolled up the napkin – he was coming back

When JC rises, He takes the trouble to roll up the napkin and put it aside
Because he's coming back!

Jesus rises from the dead
He will appear as the Resurrected Christ again and again until . . .
The Ascension, when He Ascends to His father on Ascension Thursday

But today, we rejoice that Jesus is risen!
We are His children - we bear the mark of our Baptism.

Today, people all over the world join the Church and are baptized on Easter
The same is true here, today