

EASTER VIGIL (a)

Introduction

leader: Announce the theme of the liturgy (see next)

Theme – **THE TOMB IS EMPTY!**

leader: Holy Saturday is the most important of all the vigils of the Church year. We gather to participate in readings, silences, and hymns to prepare to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus.

First Part – SERVICE OF LIGHT

Prologue:

(As the service begins all lights are out. At the side of the assembly a reader is stationed with a torch to read by. The youngest asks the presider the following question:)

server: Why is this night different from all other nights of the year?

*leader: This is the night on which the LORD, Your GOD,
brought your ancestors, the people of Israel,
dry-shod through the Reed Sea in their flight from Egypt.
This is the night on which the light from the pillar of fire
destroyed the darkness of peoples' sin.
This is the night on which Jesus Christ
burst the bonds of death and rose in victory from the grave.
This is the night which, at this hour and in every part of the world,
restores to grace and unites in holiness all people
who believe in Christ.
It is of this night that the Scriptures says:
"And night shall be as bright as day;
and night shall light up your joy."*

leader: Jesus Christ, yesterday . . .

and today . . .

the beginning

and the end . . .

the Alpha . . .

and the Omega . . .

All time belongs to him . . .

and all the ages . . .

*To him be glory and dominion through endless ages. all: **Amen***

(When the cutting of the cross and of the other signs has been completed, the presider inserts five grains of incense into the candle in the form of a cross meanwhile saying the following:)

*presider: By his holy
and glorious wounds,
may Christ the Lord guard us
and protect us.*

*all: **Amen***

*presider: May the light of Christ rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts
and minds.*

Procession

*(When the Paschal Candle has been lit, burning coals from the fire are placed in the
thurible and the presider puts incense into it. The presider, takes the Paschal Candle
and a procession forms the Thurifer with the smoking thurible precedes the presider
who carried the Paschal Candle. After them follow the people who hold in their hands
unlit candles.)*

The Light of Christ

*presider: The Light of Christ all: **Thanks be to GOD.***

*(At the door of the church the presider lights his candle from the flame of the Paschal
Candle.)*

*presider: The Light of Christ all: **Thanks be to GOD.***

*(The the presider moves forward to the middle of the church and standing and raising
up the Candle, sings a second time: All light their candles from the flame of the
Paschal Candle and continue in precession.)*

*presider: The Light of Christ all: **Thanks be to GOD.***

*(The presider places the Paschal Candle on the candle-stand and lights are lit
throughout the church, except for the altar candles. . . .
The presider, incenses the book and the candle, with all standing
then setting aside their candles all sit.)*

Second Part: LITURGY OF THE WORD

Invitation to Prayer

leader: Let us pray . . .

*Friends in Christ, now that we have begun our solemn Vigil,
let us listen with quiet hearts to the WORD of GOD.*

*Let us meditate on how GOD in past times saved his people
and in these, the last days, has sent us his Son as our Redeemer.*

*Let us pray that our GOD may complete this paschal work of salvation
by the fullness of redemption: . . .*

first reading: Genesis 1 : 1, 26 – 31a

[the creation of man and woman]

*reader: In the beginning when GOD created the heavens and the Earth . . .
. . . . And it was so. GOD saw everything that GOD had made, and indeed, it
was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth
day. The WORD of the LORD*

*all: **Thanks be to GOD.***

Psalm 104 : 1 – 2, 5 – 6, 10, 12 – 14, 35b

all ***LORD, send out Your Spirit and renew the face of the Earth.***

Silence

Prayer

leader: Let us pray: . . .

*O GOD, Who wonderfully created the human race
and still more wonderfully redeemed it,
grant us the strength of mind
to resist the enticements of sin,
and so attain to everlasting joy.*

We ask this through Jesus Christ:

*all: **Amen***

second reading: Exodus 14 : 15 – 15 : 1

[The passage through the Red Sea]

*reader: Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Then Moses
and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD: "I will sing to the LORD, for
he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.*

The WORD of the LORD

*all: **Thanks be to GOD.***

Psalm = Exodus 15 : 1 – 7, 17 – 18

*all **Let us sing to the LORD; He has covered Himself with glory!***

Silence

Prayer

leader: Let us pray . . .

*GOD of ages, through the light of the new covenant,
You unlock for us the meaning of those marvels
You worked in ancient times: the waters of the Red Sea
prefigure the waters of baptism,
and the Israelites You once freed from slavery
become a sign of Your Christian people.*

*Grant that every nation by virtue of its faith
may inherit the same privilege You bestowed on Israel
and receive new birth through the gift of Your Spirit.*

We ask this in the name of Jesus:

*all: **Amen.***

third reading: Isaiah 55 : 1 – 11

[The salvation freely offered to all]

*reader: Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!
. . . . For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,*

*giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.*

The WORD of the LORD

*all: **Thanks be to God.***

Psalm = Isaiah 12 : 2 – 6

*all **You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.***

Silence

Prayer

*leader: Let us pray . . . Almighty and eternal GOD,
only true hope of the world,
through the voices of Your prophets
You announced the mysteries we celebrate tonight.
Stir up the longings of Your faithful people,
because we grow in holiness
only through the prompting of Your grace.
We ask this through Jesus Christ: *all: **Amen****

fourth reading: Ezekiel 36 : 16 – 17a, 18 – 28

[A new heart and a new spirit]

*reader: The word of the LORD came to me: Mortal, when the house of Israel lived
on their own soil, they defiled it with their ways and their deeds;
. . . A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I
will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of
flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and
be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I
gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your
God.*

The WORD of the LORD

*all: **Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 42 : 1 – 2, 4 & 43 : 3 – 4

*all: **Like a deer that longs for running streams,
my soul yearns for You my God.***

Silence

Prayer

*leader: Let us pray . . .
In both Testaments of Holy Scripture
You teach us to celebrate the paschal mystery.
Grant that we may understand the workings of Your Mercy,
so that the gifts we receive today
may confirm our hope of blessings to come.*

*We ask this in the name of Jesus: all: **Amen***

*leader: O GOD, Your saving plan has brought us
to the glory of this night.
Slaves, we become Your sons and daughters,
poor, Your Mercy makes us rich,
sinners, You count us among Your saints.
Bring us to know the place that is ours
in the unfolding story of Your purpose,
and instil in our hearts
the wonder of Your salvation.
Grant this through Jesus Christ,
our passover and our peace,
who lives with You now and always
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, GOD for ever and ever: all: **Amen.***

(After the last reading from the Old Testament with its responsorial psalm and prayer, the altar candles may be lighted, and the Gloria is sung by all present. The bells may be rung.)

GLORIA

invitation

leader: With peoples everywhere, let us glorify our GOD in joyful song.

New Testament reading: Romans 6 : 3 - 11

[Dying and Rising with Christ]

reader: Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to GOD. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to GOD in Christ Jesus.

The WORD of the LORD

*all: **Thanks be to GOD.***

Alleluia Verse

*all **Alleluia, Alleluia Alleluia!***

reader: Give thanks to GOD for GOD is good,

Gospel reading: Matthew 28 : 1 - 10

[The Resurrection of Jesus]

presider: Then Jesus said to them, " Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me." The Gospel of the LORD.

*all: **Praise to you, Jesus Christ***

Third part: BAPTISMAL LITURGY

The Rite of Reception of the Candidate:

*all: **We gather to baptise Maariu Reetati in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit:***

presider: Maariu, what do you ask of GOD's church?

candidate: I ask to be baptised into the Christian community.

*presider: Maariu, you have asked to be baptised.
In doing so, you are accepting the responsibility
of practising faith in Jesus.
It will be your duty to keep GOD's commandments
as Christ taught us, by loving GOD and our neighbour.
Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?*

candidate: I do.

*presider: Francis and Teneaki, are you willing to help Maariu in her duty to live as
Christ's disciple?*

*god-prnts: **We are.***

*presider: Maariu, the Christian community welcomes you with great joy.
In its name I claim you for Christ our Saviour, by the sign of the cross.
I now trace the cross on your forehead and invite your and GOD-
Parents to do the same; by making the sign of the cross on M's fore-head
as a sign of acceptance by the community.*

Intercessions: *(lead by family)*

*presider: Friends in Christ, let us ask Jesus Christ to look lovingly on Maariu, who is
to be baptised and on all the baptised.*

first intention

*1: That Maariu may be bathed in light, given the new life of baptism, and
welcomed into our community of faith: we pray to the LORD:*

*All: **LORD, hear our prayer.***

second intention

*2: That through baptism and confirmation, she may become Your faithful
follower and witness to Your gospel: we pray to the LORD.*

*All: **LORD, hear our prayer.***

third intention

*3: That the lives of Teneaki and Francis, be examples of faith
to inspire her: we pray to the LORD.*

*All: **LORD, hear our prayer.***

fourth intention

*4: That You keep the Reetati family always in Your love and renew the grace
of our baptism in each one of us: we pray to the LORD.*

*All: **LORD, hear our prayer.***

concluding prayer

*presider: O GOD, You know that Maariu's life will be subject to needs and hardships
at times in the future. Grant the desires for she and her family, who pray
to You; hear the prayers of we who believe in You. We ask this through
Jesus Christ:*

*All: **Amen.***

Invocation to the Saints:

<i>presider:</i>	<i>Holy Mary, Mother of GOD</i>	<i>All: Pray for us</i>
	<i>Saint Joseph,</i>	<i>All: Pray for us</i>
	<i>Saint John the Baptist,</i>	<i>All: Pray for us</i>
	<i>Saint Peter and Paul,</i>	<i>All: Pray for us</i>
	<i>Saint Francis,</i>	<i>All: Pray for us</i>
	<i>Saint Teneaki,</i>	<i>All: Pray for us</i>
	<i>Saint Maariu,</i>	<i>All: Pray for us</i>
	<i>All you saints of GOD,</i>	<i>All: Pray for us</i>

Prayer of Exorcism:

presider: *Almighty and ever-living GOD, You sent Your only Son into the world to cast out the power of Satan, spirit of evil; to rescue people from the kingdom of darkness, and bring them into the splendour of Your kingdom of light.*
*We pray for Maariu, set her free from original sin, make her a temple of Your glory, and send Your Holy Spirit to dwell with her: all: **Amen***

Anointing before Baptism:

presider: *Maariu, we anoint you with the oil of salvation, in the name of Christ our Saviour; may he strengthen you with his power, who lives and reigns, now and always.* *All: **Amen.***

THE SACRAMENT

presider: *Friends in Christ, we now ask GOD to give Maariu, new life in abundance through water and the Holy Spirit.*

Blessing & Invocation over the Baptismal Water

presider: *Friends in Christ, GOD uses the sacrament of water to give divine life to those who believe in GOD.*
Let us turn to GOD in our faith and ask GOD to pour the gift of life from this font on this young woman GOD has chosen.
Merciful Father, from the font of baptism You have given us new life as Your sons and daughters. *All: **Blessed be GOD***
You bring together all who are baptised in water and the Holy Spirit to be one people in Jesus Christ Your Son. *All: **Blessed be GOD***
You have made us free by pouring the Spirit of Your love into our hearts, so that we will enjoy Your peace. *All: **Blessed be GOD***
You have chosen Your baptised people to announce with joy the Good News of Christ to all nations. *All: **Blessed be GOD***
Come and + bless this water in which this young woman is to be baptised. You have called her to the washing of new life, in the faith of Your Church, so that she may have eternal life, through Christ our LORD.
*All: **Amen.***

Renunciation of Sin & Profession of Faith:

presider: Teneaki and Francis, you have come to present Maariu for baptism. By water and the Holy Spirit, she is receive the gift of new life from GOD, Who is Love. On your part, you must make it your constant care to bring her to the practise of the faith; see that the divine life which GOD gives her is kept safe from the poison of sin, to grow always stronger her heart. If your faith makes you ready to accept this responsibility, renew now the vows of your own baptism. Reject sin; profess your faith in Christ Jesus. This is the faith of the Church. This is the faith in which Maariu is about to be baptised.

Maariu, do you reject Satan?

*candidate: **I do.***

presider: And all his works?

*candidate: **I do.***

presider: And all his empty promises?

*candidate: **I do.***

presider: Do you believe in GOD, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth?

*candidate: **I do.***

presider: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our LORD, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried; rose from the dead; and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

*candidate: **I do.***

presider: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

*candidate: **I do.***

presider: This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it, in Christ Jesus our LORD.

*All: **Amen.***

THE BAPTISM:

presider: Maariu, Teneaki and Francis, is it will that Maariu should be baptised in the faith of the Church, which we have professed with you?

*god-prnts: **It is.***

presider: Maariu, I baptise you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*All: **Amen***

Anointing with Chrism:

*presider: GOD the Father of our LORD Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into his holy people. He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation. As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet, and King, so may you live always as a member of his body, sharing everlasting life. All: **Amen***

Clothing with White Garment:

presider: Maariu Reetati, you have become a new creation and have clothed yourselves in Christ. See in these white garments, the outward sign of your Christian dignity. With your family and friends to help you by word and example, bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven.

*All: **Amen***

Lighted Candle:

*presider: Receive the light of Christ.
Maariu, Teneaki and Francis, this light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly. Maariu has been enlightened by Christ. She is to walk always as a disciple of Jesus, the Light of the world. May you keep the flame of faith alive in your hearts. When the LORD comes, may you go out to meet the LORD with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom. All: **Amen***

Ephphetha Prayer:

*presider: The LORD Jesus made the deaf hear and the dumb speak.
May the LORD soon touch your ears to receive his WORD and your mouth to proclaim his faith, to the praise and glory of GOD the Father. All: **Amen.***

CONCLUSION

presider: Friends in Christ, Maariu has been reborn in baptism. She is now called a woman of GOD, for so indeed she is. In confirmation she will receive the fullness of GOD's Spirit. In holy communion she will share the banquet of Christ's sacrifice, calling GOD their Father in the midst of the Church. In the name of Maariu, in the Spirit of our common womanhood, let us pray together in the words our LORD has given us:

*All: **Our Father, . . .***

Blessing of Parents & family

*presider: GOD the Father, through his Son, the Virgin Mary's child, has brought joy to all Christian mothers, as they see the hope of eternal life shine on their children.
May GOD bless Maariu's mother for the gift that is her daughter.
May she be one with her in thanking GOD
forever in heaven in Christ Jesus, our LORD. All: **Amen.***

GOD is the giver of all life, human and divine.

May he bless Maariu's father. He and his wife will continue to be their child child in the ways of faith.

May they be also the best of teachers, bearing witness to the faith, by what they say and do, in Christ Jesus our LORD.

*All: **Amen.***

presider: By GOD's gift, through water and the holy Spirit, we are reborn to everlasting life. In GOD's goodness, may GOD continue to pour out blessings upon Maariu, Teneaki and Francis. May GOD make them always, wherever they may be,

*faithful members of GOD's holy people.
May GOD send peace upon all who are gathered here,
in Christ Jesus, our LORD. All: **Amen***

(we conclude Maariu's baptism by making a sign of peace with each other)

*presider: Let us offer one another a sign of peace, with these or similar words:
"The peace of Christ be with you".*

(After the baptism the renewal of baptismal promises. The profession of faith is omitted)

*presider: Friends, through the paschal mystery
we have been buried with Christ in baptism
so that we may rise with him to new life.
Now that we have completed our Lenten observance,
let us renew the promises we made in baptism
and when we rejected Satan and his works
and promised to serve God faithfully
in God's holy, catholic church. And so:
Do you reject sin so as to live in the freedom of GOD's people?*

*all **I do.***

presider: Do you reject the glamour of evil and refuse to be mastered by sin?

*all **I do.***

presider: Do you reject Satan, father of sin and prince of darkness?

*all **I do.***

presider: Do you believe in GOD, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and Earth?

*all **I do.***

presider: You believe in Jesus Christ, GOD's only begotten Son, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead and is now seated at the right of the Father

*all **I do.***

presider: Do believe in the holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting?

*all **I do.***

*presider: GOD the all-powerful Father of Jesus Christ,
has given us a new birth by water and the holy Spirit
and forgiven all our sins.
May GOD also keep us faithful to Jesus Christ, now and always:*

*all **Amen***

Intercessions

invitation to pray:

- leader: Friends, Christ is risen! He is always living to intercede in our favour with the Father. With confidence, let us present our prayer to the Father through him:*
- 1: *For the Catholic community: that the newly baptised may testify to the world the resurrection of Christ: all: **Lord, hear us.***
- 2: *For all Christians: that the day may soon come when all Christians can celebrate Easter together, sharing the same Eucharist and testifying together to the world the resurrection of Christ: all: **Lord, hear us.***
- 3: *For those who suffer from illness, poverty, aloneness; may their suffering in body and mind, find support in our joy and may our love for them be genuine enough to bring them comfort: all: **Lord, hear us.***
- 4: *For our community gathered here: may our daily work fill our world with the love of Christ and bring us nearer to the divine life where Christ reigns with his Father: all: **Lord, hear us.***
- 5: *Let us recommend also to the Risen Christ all our personal intentions: all: **Lord, hear us.***
- concluding prayer*
- leader: Holy God, walk with us in in Jesus on the road of the resurrection and may Your joy spread in our hearts and in what we do: all: **Amen***

fourth part: THE EUCHARIST

Prayer over the Gifts

presider (Kia inoi tatou: ... / Let us pray,) Receive, O Lord, the prayers and offerings of your people, and grant that the healing work which You have begun in the paschal mystery may bring us to eternal salvation.

*We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. all: **Amen***

(Before saying the invitation to communion, the priest briefly reminds Maariu and Tavaa Kabunare [the neophytes] of the preeminence of the eucharist, which is the climax of their initiation and the centre of the whole Christian life. The neophytes, together with their godparents, parents, spouses, and catechists, receive communion under both kinds, followed by the other members of the assembly.)

Preface

presider The Lord be with you.

*all: **And also with you.***

presider Lift up your hearts.

*all: **We lift them up to the Lord.***

presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*all: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

presider It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, that we should always sing Your glory, Lord; but we praise You with greater joy than ever on this Easter night

*when Christ became our paschal sacrifice.
 He is the true Lamb who took away the sins of the world.
 By dying he destroyed our death;
 by rising he restored our life.
 Therefore, the universe resounds with Easter joy,
 and the choirs of angels sing the endless hymn of your glory:
Holy holy holy!*

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER I

Acclamation

Introducing the Lord's Prayer

*leader: With trust in God,
 Who nourishes us in the hour of need,
 let us pray as Jesus taught us:*

*all: **Our Father** , . . .*

Ko te Tinana o te Karaiti:

Ko nga Toto o te Karaiti:

Prayer after Communion

*leader: (Kia inoi tatou: ...) God of mercy,
 pour forth upon us the spirit of Your love,
 to make one in mind and heart
 those You have nourished by these Easter sacraments.
 We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. all: **Amen***

CONCLUDING RITE

DISMISSAL

*leader: We are sent in the name of God,
 Giver of the Law to Moses;
 we are sent in the name of Jesus, the new Moses;
 who commands us to a new obedience;
 we are sent in the name of the holy Spirit;
 the Wisdom of God by which we discern the Truth still!
 Open our eyes and minds, that we may contemplate Your Law.
 Put in our hearts the love of Your justice; the fullness of love.
 Help us to be reconciled with our brothers and sisters
 with help through Jesus Christ until we gather again. **Amen***

BLESSING

*leader: Kia whakapaingia koutou e te Atua kaha rawa,
 e te Matua, e te Tamaiti ✠ e te Wairua Tapu. Amene*