

# Celebrate Easter!



Chocolate candy.  
Easter egg hunts.

Getting a picture taken with the Easter bunny.  
Buying new spring clothes. Chances are these are the responses most children would give if asked how they were preparing for Easter.

Like children, we would rather concentrate on the positive, happy things like spring, bunnies, chicks, candy and colored eggs, than the suffering and sacrifice Jesus made for each one of us on the cross.

Crowds flock to church on Easter Sunday, where only a few days earlier, congregations were sparse on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. People like to hear good news. Easter declares the good news that Christ is Risen!

During Lent, we are called to deepen our spiritual lives through prayer and reading the Scriptures — to examine how we are using our talents and skills in the service of others and our giving to the poor. We are called to live as true disciples of Christ. We could look at Lent as a 40-day crash course in how to live a life as a steward of God's gifts.

As a steward entrusted with such gifts and good news of a risen Christ, what might we do in response? In St. Paul's 2nd letter to the Corinthians he writes, "He will always make you rich enough to be generous at all times." Will we take the many opportunities to share our gifts of money, our talents and our time? Is it time to take God's promise of abundance seriously and be generous stewards of his gifts?

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