

Liturgical Living: Eastertide

He is Risen! He is Risen, indeed!

Just as the rest of the world is putting away their bunny decor, we begin our celebration. Easter is the Feast of Feasts, and we get to savor the beauty of redemption for 50 days!

Alleluia, indeed!!

Eastertide is the 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost. These days are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one "great Sunday."

On the 40th day after Easter the Ascension of the Lord is celebrated. This solemnity directs our attention to Jesus, who ascended into heaven before the eyes of His disciples to prepare a place for us in the kingdom of heaven, and who is destined to come again at the end of time.

The days from the Ascension to Pentecost are a preparation for the coming of the Holy Spirit. After Jesus' Ascension into heaven, He commanded His disciples to come together in the upper room to devote themselves to constant prayer. They prayed for nine days before Pentecost.

The [Pentecost novena](#) is considered the origin of the novena.

This sacred season of Eastertide comes to an end on Pentecost Sunday, which commemorates the giving of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles, the beginnings of the Church and its mission to every people and every nation.

Here are some ideas for keeping the Easter season all 50 days:

- Hang [this printable banner](#) in your home to mark each week of Eastertide.
- [Make an alleluia display](#) at home.
- [Design your own paschal candle](#) to light each night at dinner.
- Incorporate [some of these ideas](#) into the weeks of Easter.
- [Turn your front door into a stained-glass work of art.](#)
- Pray the [Regina Caeli](#), which is the traditional Easter season prayer that replaces the Angelus.

"We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song!" ~ Saint John Paul II