

Easter Sunday, April 4th

Hello families! I hope you are all doing well. Happy Easter! We hear the gospel reading today from St. John 20:1-9. You can find this gospel readings in the Catholic Children's Bible on p. 1701 and in the Family Connections Bible on pp. 1519-1520. In our gospel reading today, we hear about Jesus' miraculous resurrection! In particular we hear about the disciples discovering Jesus' empty tomb. That's what Easter is all about. Celebrating Jesus' glorious resurrection from the dead. Read the gospel reading and then continue on to today's other activities!

Video:

Here is a Saddleback Kids video based off of all of John 20!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2f5prtheZuA>

Summary:

Happy Easter! Hallelujah he is risen! What a most joyous day we celebrate today! After six weeks of solemn prayer and reflection during Lent, we get to rejoice today that Jesus has risen from the dead. In our Gospel reading, we first hear about Mary Magdalene going to visit Jesus' tomb. When she arrives, she is shocked to see the stone in front of the tomb has been moved and it is empty inside. So she runs back to the disciples to tell them that the tomb is open and Jesus is gone. The disciples run back to see for themselves and upon entering the tomb, find Jesus gone and all of his burial cloths perfectly rolled up. What they didn't know yet was that Jesus had risen from the tomb. This of course they will find out later when Jesus appears to them!

Today is a very special day! We are reminded of the power of God and the promise that he made to us about eternal life. God loves us all so much that he gave his only Son. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins so that we may be forgiven and live forever with God in Heaven. Though Easter can be about candy, hiding eggs, and other fun festivities, remember to take time to thank Jesus and honor the sacrifice that he made for us all!

Questions:

1. What do you think the disciples were thinking and feeling when they discovered Jesus' body missing?

2. Do you think Jesus knew all along that this would happen? Had he given the disciples any clues?
3. How do you plan to celebrate Easter with your family?

Activity:

Find below a few different activities! There is a coloring page, an Easter egg symbolic colors coloring page, and a template to do an Easter cross painting!

Easter Egg Symbolic Colors Craft

Materials

- Egg template (Page 3)
- Crayons/Colored Pencils/Watercolors/Markers
- Scissors



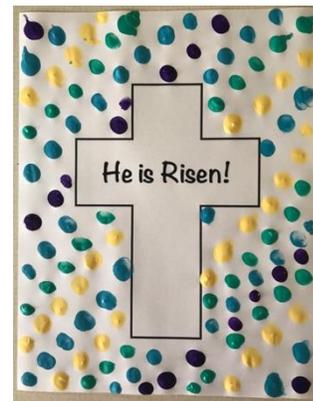
Directions

1. Print out the egg template and first read through the different colors and their meanings.
2. Use whatever desired coloring utensils and color each section of the egg, reviewing what each color stands for.
3. Cut the egg out and display!

Easter Cross Painting

Materials

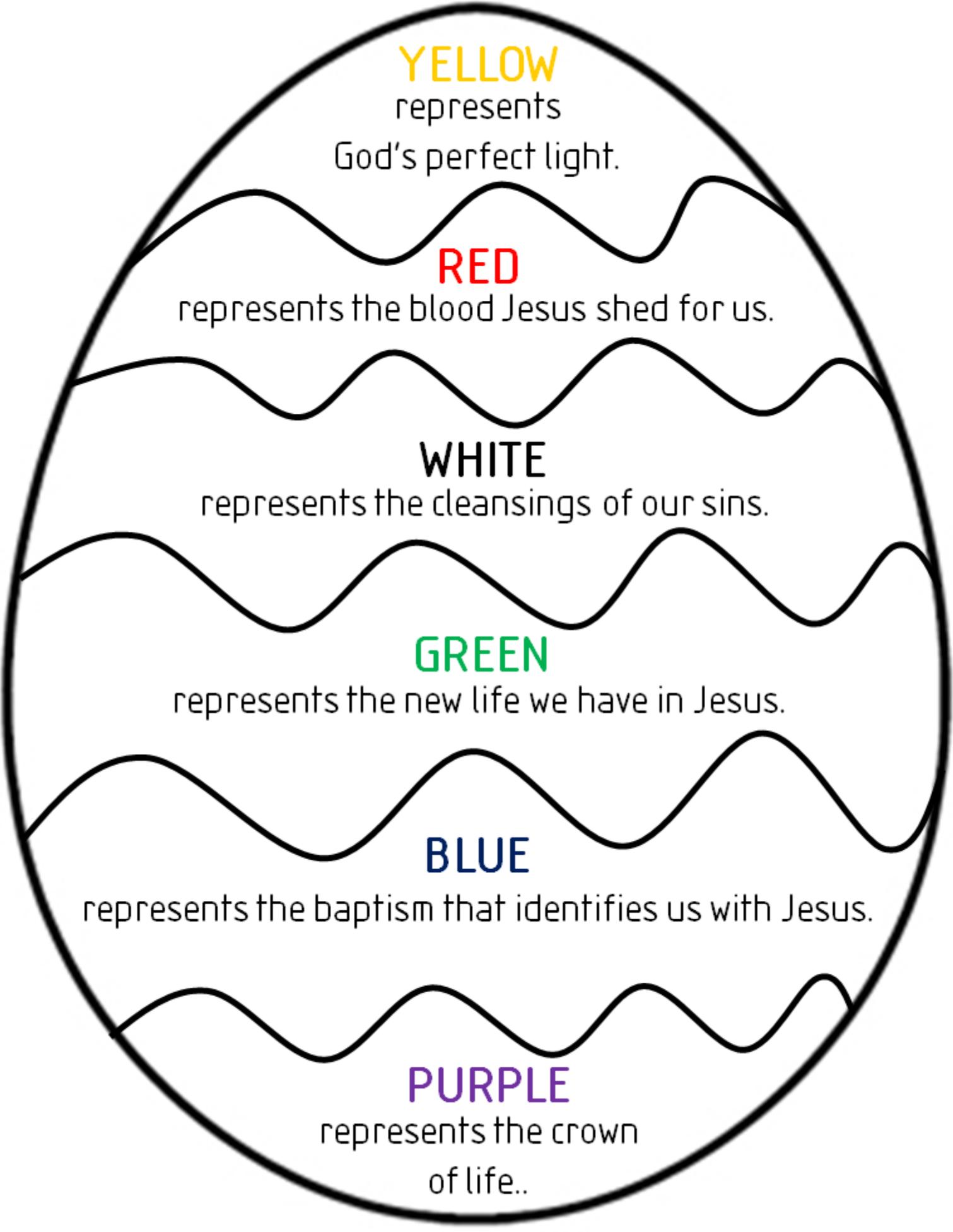
- Cross template (Page 4)
- Craft Paint/Finger Paint
- Paper plate/Palette
- Damp paper towel



Directions

1. Print out the cross template and decide which paint colors you would like to use.
2. Using your fingers, make colorful dots and patterns surrounding the cross. Use the damp paper towel to clean your fingers between colors.

Have a very happy Easter and enjoy some time with family. We thank God on this most holy day. Have a blessed week everyone!



YELLOW

represents
God's perfect light.

RED

represents the blood Jesus shed for us.

WHITE

represents the cleansings of our sins.

GREEN

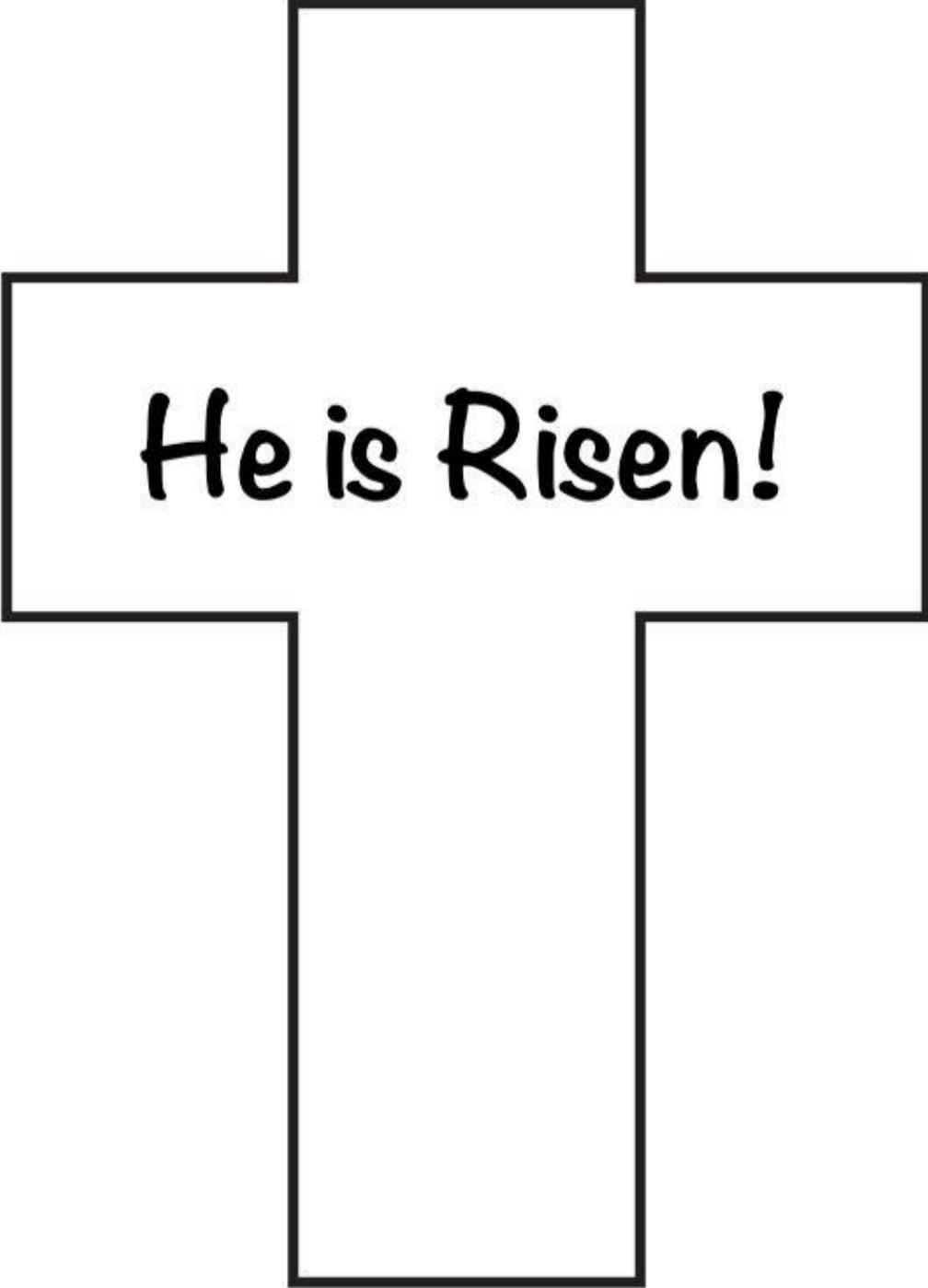
represents the new life we have in Jesus.

BLUE

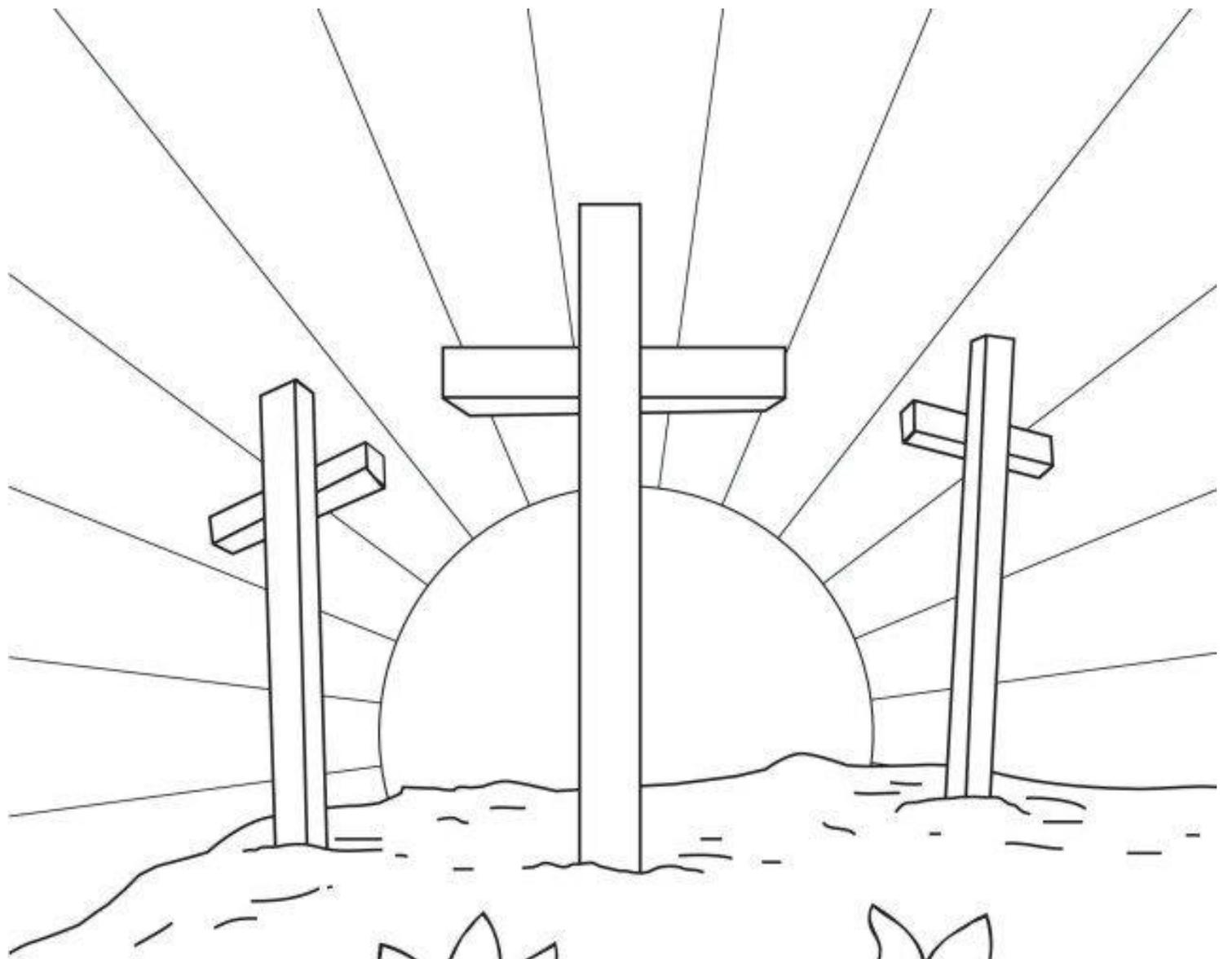
represents the baptism that identifies us with Jesus.

PURPLE

represents the crown
of life..



He is Risen!



Jesus
Is Risen

A black and white line drawing of a cluster of lilies, including several open flowers and one closed bud, positioned behind the text.