



As we celebrate these weeks after Easter, you will notice that they are called Sundays “**of**” Easter, instead of “after” Easter. That is because Easter is such a Great Feast,

THE FEAST, that it is one great feast of fifty days. The Easter Season continues until Pentecost Sunday.

If you follow the Gospel readings during these weeks, you will read the wonderful accounts of Jesus appearances to his Apostles. And in the first readings you will hear of the first beginnings of the early Church, These can be found in the Missalette if you have one at home. If not, they are available at [usccb.org](http://usccb.org).

In case the current world situation has gotten you down, I would like to share with you part of Pope Francis’ message of JOY:

*Vatican City, Apr 16, 2020 / 03:12 am (CNA).- Joy is a grace and a gift of the Holy Spirit, not just positive emotions or feeling cheerful, Pope Francis said at Mass at the Vatican Thursday.*

*Joy “is not the consequence of emotions that burst for a wonderful thing... No, it is more,” he said April 16. “This joy, this which fills us, is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. Without the Spirit one cannot have this joy.”*

*“To be full of joy,” the pope said, “is the experience of the highest consolation, when the Lord makes us understand that this is something different from being cheerful, positive, bright...”*

*“No, it is another thing,” he continued. It is “an overflowing joy that really hits us.”*

*“Receiving the joy of the Spirit is a grace.”*

I wish you all the Joy of the Holy Spirit until we meet again in Church.

Agnes