

The Paschal Candle



The Paschal Candle



The Paschal Candle is sometimes called the Easter Candle because it is lit at Easter time.

The Lighting of the Candle

The name 'Paschal' comes from the Hebrew word Pesach which means Passover.

In the Church, at the Saturday vigil before Easter Sunday, a 'new' fire is lit. The candle is then lit from this sacred fire. The priest blesses it saying,



**"The light of Christ, rising in Glory,
dispel the darkness of our hearts and
minds."**

What do you think the lighting
of the candle represents?

The Exultet



After the candle is lit, the priest carries it through the church in a procession. Then the Exultet is said. This is a special prayer, which ends with a blessing.

What Does the Paschal Candle Look Like?



The Paschal candle often has the sign of the cross on the front. There are five studs or 'nails' pressed into the candle where incense is embedded. These are supposed to represent the five wounds of Christ

Why do you think there are five studs pressed into the candle?

Talk to the person beside you about your thoughts.

The Flame



The candle represents the eternal presence of Christ. The lighting of the flame is to help people remember that Jesus is the Light of the World and that before he came, the world was in spiritual darkness.

Other Times the Paschal is Used



The Paschal candle is lit throughout Easter time and then relit for baptisms and other special events including feast days in the year.



twinkl

