

MAKE AN EASTER GARDEN

An Easter garden is a re-creation of the garden where Jesus's resurrection took place. I have seen a similar garden in Jerusalem, with a grave like a cave cut into the rock about five feet tall, and a massive round stone like a mill wheel to the side of it. We don't know the exact hour when Jesus was resurrected from the dead, but that angels were present, and that Mary Magdalene, then Peter and John came to the grave cave and found it empty, with the burial garments neatly placed on one side. You can read about it, a slightly different account in the gospels: Mark Chapter 16, or Matthew Chapter 28, or Luke Chapter 24, or John Chapter. They tell it from slightly different prospective, it probably depended on who was recounting the story at the time.

You can make an Easter garden either outside in the garden, or on a balcony or inside. For inside you will need a piece of cardboard box or tray, that you can cover with plastic, such as a bin liner, if using a box, you will need to cut the sides down to about 6 cm. You won't need this if you are working in the garden. The Easter garden can be quite small about 30cm long and a 20cm wide, or it can be as bigger.

1. You will need to make the large stone that rolls away. You can either find a round pebble in your garden, or look for a suitable one when out for a walk, or you can make it out of clay, or play dough, or flour salt and water, make it thick like a bit of pastry, and use plenty of salt. If you place this outside it is best when it is dry to wrap it in cling film, a bit of plastic or ideally paint it with acrylic paints.



2. You then need to model your cave to fit the size of stone you have. You can do this out of salt dough if inside, or playdough, clay, or if you have a clay soil out of that, if you have a sandy soil like me it won't work. I will have to make it out of twigs or use and old plant pot, and cover it with some earth, and some bits of grass I have dug up from weeding. Place the stone to one side of your tomb, you might need to make a little groove in the ground for this. You can