

# INSIGHT

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## Home for the Holidays

No, it's not about the 1995 comedy-drama movie starring Jodie Foster and Robert Downey Jr.

It's the 2020 based-on-a-true-story movie starring, well, *all of us*.

Earlier this month, the Buddhists commemorated the birth, enlightenment (Buddhahood), and death (Parinirvāna) of Gautama Buddha known as Vesak Day. This Thursday, the Christians will mark Ascension Day, the 40th day of Easter where Jesus ascended into heaven. And a couple of days later, the Muslims have Eid al-Fitr to celebrate the end of month-long dawn-to-sunset fasting of Ramadan.

The similarity between all these religious holidays? This year, they are all observed at home.

Traditionally, people would gather at their respective worship places, temple, church, mosque, etc to perform a mass and a specific prayer, followed by a family meal for some.

This time around, with PSBB (large-scale social restrictions) still in place to curb the spread of COVID-19, it's best to stay home instead. Alone doesn't equal lonely. Put on your best outfit, prepare your favourite meals, video-call your loved ones and celebrate with them. Yes, virtual feast is a thing now!

You can avoid those awkward conversations (just put it on mute or say you can't hear them due to unstable connection) and no need to help with the dishes afterwards!



My co-editor told me what she loves most from the holidays is the chance to reminisce about her childhood. She would visit her grandparents and ask them what was she like as a kid. They would then browse through photo albums, play board games and get nostalgic.

She would listen to old songs and old-school movies such as Mr. Bean, Laskar Pelangi, and Home Alone (honestly this franchise is always (always!) played, and there are five series to it in case you don't know). She would also use this opportunity to reconnect with old friends and talk about the good old days where their only worry was there wasn't enough time to play around.

What about you? What's your favourite childhood memory during the holidays? As always, you can share them to [stara.pedro@jakland.co.id](mailto:stara.pedro@jakland.co.id).

In the meantime, *minal aidin wal faidzin* to those who celebrate and happy holidays!

**Yours trully,**  
the community editor