

April 22, 2025

Daily Reflections

Journeying through Easter



Center for Spiritual Development

MARY SAID, "I HAVE SEEN THE LORD!"

By Sr. Jeanne Fallon, CSJ

Today's Gospel

Mary Magdalene stayed outside the tomb weeping. And as she wept, she bent over into the tomb and saw two angels in white sitting there, one at the head and one at the feet where the Body of Jesus had been. And they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken my Lord, and I don't know where they laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus there, but did not know it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" She thought it was the gardener and said to him, "Sir, if you carried him away, tell me where you laid him, and I will take him." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni," which means Teacher. Jesus said to her, "Stop holding on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them, 'I am going to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and then reported what he had told her.

Reflection

This passage from John is a continuation of Easter Sunday's Gospel reading (verses 1-10) where Mary had thought that the Body of Jesus had been taken from the tomb, and she was weeping. When Mary peered into the tomb, she saw two angels sitting where the Body of Jesus had been: they asked her "Why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" (Why would they ask her? Didn't they know?) At this moment Jesus himself approached Mary, yet she did not recognize him. Perhaps this "gardener" carried him away...

Jesus said her name, "Mary!" The sound of his voice saying her name broke through her grief, and she recognized Jesus, her Beloved, standing before her. "Teacher!" she proclaimed! Just as the sheep know the sound of the shepherd's voice, so Mary knew the familiar tone of Jesus calling her name. This tender moment was filled with Jesus' love for Mary, who had followed him even to the agony of the cross and to the tomb at the break of this day. Now her mourning and tears changed into dancing, and she was ready to run to tell the disciples that Jesus had risen from the dead and that **she had seen the Lord!** She was being sent as the Apostle to the Apostles, joyfully running with this Good News that Jesus lives!



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For Pondering and Prayer

As you contemplate Mary running to the disciples with this message of Jesus' resurrection, what is stirring in your heart? Do you want to run with her? Is her joy filling your being as you welcome this Good News into your heart once again? To whom do you want to tell the story that Jesus lives among us? Have you ever heard Jesus call your name? What was that like?

Jesus is alive! This is a new beginning: Jesus calls his Father, our Father, and his God, our God! Jesus, our Brother, has been raised from the dead and lives forever. Amen! Alleluia!

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