

April 6, 2024

# Daily Reflections

*Journeying through Easter*



Center for Spiritual Development

## BELIEVE

## GO OUT INTO THE WORLD AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

By Sr. Karen Clock, CSJ

### Today's Gospel

*When Jesus had risen, early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons. She went and told his companions who were mourning and weeping. When they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe.*

*After this he appeared in another form to two of them walking along on their way to the country. They returned and told the others; but they did not believe them either.*

*But later, as the Eleven were at table, he appeared to them and rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart because they had not believed those who saw him after he had been raised. He said to them, "Go into the world*

and proclaim the Gospel to every creature.”

**MARK 16:9-15**

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## Reflection

Imagine what it must have been like for the disciples after Jesus died. Imagine the confusion, fear, doubt, and the chaos that was happening within each of them. They didn't know what to do. Some ran and hid, some women stayed by the tomb waiting to be able to go in and take care of the body. It was a time of enormous anxiety and unknowing for the disciples.

The disciples didn't remember what Jesus taught them, that he would die and would rise after his death. As we read in the gospel passages of this week, it took time for them to understand what had happened. Even when they recognized Him, they were slow in understanding. Their belief, their understanding in the resurrection would grow over time, as it does for each of us. After several encounters with Jesus, at the end of today's gospel he was standing among the Eleven. He rebuked them for their lack of faith and hardheartedness and told them to go out into the world and proclaim the good news of the resurrection to all people. Jesus is and has always been focused on the bigger picture that his life, death, and resurrection show us: the profound love that God has for us, to give His only son so that we may have eternal life.

Jesus has brought us out of the tomb and into a more full and harmonious vision for all of humanity. He sends us out to proclaim the message of God's love, compassion, mercy, and the promise of eternal life, to a world that is broken in many ways and filled with anxiety and fear. Filled with faith and hope as we proclaim Jesus is Lord, we will realize a world in which all of creation is brought together by celebrating our diversity, unity, and oneness with God the Father.

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life.” John 3:16*

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Window in a church ruin in Ireland  
Photo by Sr. Karen Clock, CSJ

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### **For Pondering**

How do you proclaim the message of the Resurrection to your family, friends, and the world?

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## For Prayer

*O Risen Lord, help us to proclaim your message of God's love for all by  
Bringing good news to the poor.  
Feeding the hungry and clothing the naked.  
Releasing those who suffer injustice and those imprisoned by their sins.  
Welcoming the stranger and the lonely.  
Bringing your peace to the world and your joy to all people.*

*Amen.*

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