

Subject: Daily prayer 14th April 2020
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Date: 14/04/2020, 07:30
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Good morning

This is the daily prayer with a reflection by Father Simon

A Simple Order for Prayer during the Day in Eastertide

Preparation O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

If I climb up to heaven, you are there; if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
Psalm 139.

Yesterday I was crucified with Christ; today I am glorified with him.
Yesterday I was dead with Christ; today I am sharing in his resurrection. Yesterday I was buried with him; today I am waking with him from the sleep of death Gregory of Nazianzus (389)

Our Gospel reading for today - John 20:1-18

The Resurrection of Jesus

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

A reflection by Father Simon:-

Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene

We all love Mary Magdalene, the sinner who became a saint. In the early hours of the first day of the week, we find her weeping in the cemetery, as she discovers the empty tomb. Where is her beloved Lord? Then through a curtain of tears, she hears her name "Mary", and replies "Rabboni" or teacher. It is significant that Mary as a woman is the first person of the Apostolic Company to meet the Risen Christ; and she alone is tasked with breaking the marvellous news to the disciples who were lost in their own grief. Today we thank God for all those women across the world and the ages, who have responded to Christ's call, often through much personal suffering, to bring the Good News to others.

A time of prayer where you can pray for all those who are affected by the current situation. Pray for the world; for the Church; for our country and Government; for our doctors, nurses and emergency services; for your family, loved ones and friends; for those who are lonely or anxious; for the sick and dying; for the departed; and do not forget to pray for yourself and your own needs and concerns.

On this day that the Lord has made, let us pray for the people he has redeemed. That we may live as those who believe in the triumph of the cross: Lord, have mercy.

That all people may receive the good news of his victory: Lord, have mercy.

That those born to new life in the waters of baptism may know the power of his resurrection: Lord, have mercy.

That those who suffer pain and anguish may find healing and peace in the wounds of Christ: Lord, have mercy.

That in the undying love of Christ we may be united with all who have died in the faith of Christ: Lord, have mercy.

Let us commend the world, in which Christ rose from the dead, to the mercy and protection of God. Open prayer may be offered and silence kept.

The Lord's Prayer is said. Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Conclusion

May Christ our Saviour give us peace. Amen