

Saint Mary Magdalene Wednesday 22 July



About Saint Mary Magdalene

There has been a lot of confusion about Mary Magdalene throughout history. What we do know about her is that Jesus healed her and appeared to her on the morning of His Resurrection. We hear Jesus say in the Gospel reading for today's feast:

'Do not cling to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father.

But go and find the brothers, and tell them:

I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.' (John 20: 17)

What can we learn from Saint Mary Magdalene's life?

Thomas is noted for two things: his doubt and then for his proclamation of faith after seeing the There are two lessons we can learn from this saint. Firstly, we can be healed of all that causes us to be sick, not only physically, but mentally and by other obstacles in our life, if we **are willing to allow God's grace to work in us and be healed. We need to be willing to make changes to our life and the way we live it.**

Secondly, God is a God of surprises. Mary was grieving over the death of Jesus when he appeared to her. She then became the messenger to the other eleven apostles that Jesus had risen from the dead.

We may not always be the first to hear news – or we may not get that job we are so desperately after at the first go. Patience and humility are virtues with which we can never go wrong in life. We must continually work with perseverance, always seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit in all things so that we will truly be witnesses to Christ in our world.

Collect

O God, whose Only Begotten Son entrusted Mary Magdalene before all others with announcing the great joy of the Resurrection, grant, we pray, that through her intercession and example we may proclaim the living Christ and come to see him reigning in your glory. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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Gospel John 20:1-2,11-18

'Mary, go and find the brothers and tell them'

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb.

She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved.

'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

Meanwhile Mary stayed outside near the tomb, weeping.

Then, still weeping, she stooped to look inside, and saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head, the other at the feet.

They said, 'Woman, why are you weeping?'

'They have taken my Lord away' she replied 'and I don't know where they have put him.'

As she said this she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, though she did not recognise him.

Jesus said, 'Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?'

Supposing him to be the gardener, she said,

'Sir, if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and remove him.' Jesus said, 'Mary!'

She knew him then and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbuni!' – which means Master.

Jesus said to her,

'Do not cling to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father.

But go and find the brothers, and tell them: I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'

So Mary of Magdala went and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord and that he had said these things to her.

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Antiphon 2 Cor 5: 14, 15

The love of Christ impels us,
so that those who live may live no longer for themselves,
but for him who died for them and was raised.

Hymn for the Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene

All praise for Mary Magd'lene,
whose wholeness was restored
by You, her faithful Master,
her Saviour and her Lord.
On Easter morning early,
a word from You sufficed:
her faith was first to see you,
her Lord, the Risen Christ.

"I haven't yet ascended,
to me you must not cling;
but go and tell the brothers
no more death has its sting.
For to the heavenly Father
I'm going to ascend,
my work is not yet finished
on you I now depend."

Verse 1 – CWBII #423

Verse 2- Chris deSilva and Alessio Loiacono
76.76D

Music Links to the Scripture Readings

[We Walk by Faith](#) - Marty Haugen

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