

Scripture Prayer For The Week

"Once...
when Jesus...
was praying alone..." Luke 9:18



Artwork Dorothy Woodward

Easter Sunday Year A

We Gather: In the prayer space, have the bible opened at the Gospel reading. The stand or table is draped with White. An Easter Candle could be placed near a bowl of water. During the Call to Prayer, light the Easter Candle.

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made,
All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Leader: The Lord's right hand has triumphed,
All: God's hand has lifted me up!

We Listen: The Gospel. Matthew 28:1-10 (Gospel from the Easter Vigil)

Read the gospel passage reflectively. After a time of silent reflection, the line from scripture below could be repeated and the short commentary read.

“ ‘He has risen from the dead and now is going before you to Galilee’ ” Mt 28:7

Commentary: There is a lot happening here. The unbelievable and urgency for action! The two Marys are told to check the tomb, then go tell the others to head to Galilee. But before they get to the disciples, Jesus appears, passionate and earthy, as if he can't wait to be with them again. So notice that we have two timely revealings of the new life God has promised to us all—the angel's message (angels messaging again!) and the message of Jesus himself (Jesus' words again!). It remains for the women and for us to reveal this twice more: Mary to the waiting and anxious disciples and us, to the whole world (Galilee - as outside Jerusalem and inclusive of different peoples). This is the most exciting and consoling moment of the Gospel. It spurs us on in our personal life's meaning and is our *raison d'être* for Christian life. Let its passion sit with you!

In silence, reflect on the questions below? You may wish to have a time of brief sharing. During this time, move to the bowl of water and stir it with your hand.

- What is it about the Resurrection that is the mainstay of my life?
- Is this moment between the Marys and Jesus one of passion and grace for me too?

Song: Alleluia (D Fisher-AOV1) or Rise Up with Him (J Vogt-Spirit & Song)

We Go Forth:

God who raises us up: from the loss of meaning to the moment of hope, you reveal your love through the life journey of Jesus your Word. May we be touched into belief and stirred into love as we ponder this mystery and the truths it offers us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: ` We shall live and recount God's marvellous deeds. Alleluia! Alleluia!
All: And we shall rejoice. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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