



Meditation for the 4th April 2021

Easter Sunday

The Gospel according
to John 20: 1-9

The first day of the week, when Mary Magdalene went to the tomb, it was still dark, John tells us. The darkness of death, of shock, of an inner night also. When darkness comes over our lives, it is so hard to stand up, to go forward and walk to the place of deadlock, where life was broken. Mary Magdalene finds the strength for this journey in the infinite love she has for her Lord.

What is the love that gives you the strength to get up in the dark times? Where is the source of that love?

Mary Magdalene sees that the tombstone has been moved and runs to tell Peter and the other disciple. These two, hearing Mary's words, start running also. The first effects of the resurrection on Jesus' friends are physical ones: a race! A race that isn't out of fear: now is no longer the time to run away. The strangeness of the situation, not understanding what is happening, this opens up a chasm: "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" The stone in front of Jesus' tomb is not the full stop at the end of the Story. So the disciples start running, without understanding or knowledge... Dawn breaks

with this movement of bodies, of hearts, and nothing is understandable. The disciple that Jesus loved runs faster than Peter, he waits for his elder in front of the tomb. Faced with incomprehension, we don't all go at the same pace. Now is not the time to all go together at the same rate but just to find one another together in front of the open chasm: the open tomb.

This Easter morning, remember those times there was movement around you, inside you. For you, what is this "open chasm"? Give thanks to God for this first effect of the resurrection in you!

Peter enters the tomb first and sees the linen and the cloth. In fact the tomb isn't empty! The signs of Jesus' death are still there, folded and lying placed there. There is no sign of a struggle or conflict. The cloth is in its place. In this tomb, time is on pause: the dead body is no longer there. Death is no longer there. Very simply, from the beginning of his ministry when he refused the temptations in the desert, to his death on the cross, Jesus chose humility, powerlessness, love turned unconditionally towards the Father and others. In his life there is no grandeur or halo. His resurrection follows in the same way. There is no violent explosion from God against the humans who have killed his Son, no special effects showing a victorious Jesus blowing open the gates of death. No floodlight, nothing like that. Just a few linens folded and in their place. Peace holds the space, conforming to the choices made by Jesus.

Take the time to taste the inner peace of the empty tomb: death is no longer there!

P Peter and the other disciple look. The younger one, the one that Jesus loved, sees and believes. Nothing is said about Peter's journey of faith, and it doesn't matter. Seeing and believing. That is what we are called

to. Today, like the two disciples on Easter morning, we don't see the resurrected Jesus, but we can trace his presence and believe in his resurrection.

What does your hope look like? What does your faith look like?

Go and look for signs of resurrection in you and around you...

With a song or a prayer, let your heart tell God of your faith and joy...

Sr Anne Peyremorte

Christ is Risen!
Khrishti unjal!
El Messieh kahm!
Kristos haryav ee merelotz!
Hristos voskrese!
Helisituosi fuhuole!
Kristus vstal a mrtvyeh!
Christus is opgestaan!
Le Christ est ressuscité!
Kriste ahzdkhah!
Christus ist erstanden!
Christos anesti!
Ha Masheeha houh kam!
Cristo e' risorto!
Harisutosu Fukkatsu!
Christus resurrexit!
Jesu Kristi ebiliwo!
Khristus zmartvikstau!
Cristo ressuscitou!
Cristos a inviat!
Khristos voskrese!
Христос Воскрсе!
Cristo ha resucitado!
Christus ar uppstanden!
Hristos diril-di!
Khristos voskres!
Ukristu uvukile!