

Sunday, April 4, 2021

Readings: 1) Acts 10:34a, 37-43 2) Colossians 3:1-4 3) John 20:1-9

Sunday Liturgy

The focus for today's Mass is: *Is it fact or fiction?* The totality of our faith hinges on our fervent belief that the tomb is empty.

It all comes down to this. Jesus being raised from the dead gives purpose to his cross and ours. Without the Resurrection, all suffering is absurd, death is the end and we are lost.

In today's reading, Saint Peter gives a summary of the Paschal Mystery in our reading from Acts. In the reading from Colossians, Paul reminds us that being raised in Christ calls us to a higher standard. In the Gospel, Mary Magdala does not go into the empty tomb right away. Instead, she seeks out Peter and the Beloved Disciple.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

PRIEST:

Full of confidence in the risen Christ,
we place before the Father our humble needs.

**For our Holy Father and all who lead the Church;
may they remain faithful to the Gospel.**

We Pray to the Lord. People sing: Hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

**For those called to leadership in the world;
may they work diligently to raise people from slavery in all its forms.**

We Pray to the Lord. People sing: Hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

**For those who are ill in mind and body;
may they know God's healing.**

We Pray to the Lord. People sing: Hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

**For those who have died;
may they experience the joys of the heavenly kingdom.**

We Pray to the Lord. People sing: Hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

**For our gathering of family and friends this Easter,
may it be a time of witness, growth and harmony,**

We Pray to the Lord. People sing: Hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

For our own personal intentions, (long pause),

We Pray to the Lord. People sing: Hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

PRIEST:

Lord God,

we thank you for your great love and mercy.

Please hear our prayers,

which we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.