



## Easter Sunday 2021

4th April

**Alleluia! Christ has risen!**

### Introduction

Today, the whole of creation awakens with joyful surprise at this announcement: The Lord has Risen! The Risen Lord wants to reach out to us on this day. Let us allow the light, the joy, the peace...let each of the signs that accompany the Presence of the Risen Christ extend to the places where we find ourselves as Family of the Sacred Heart: in towns, in simple, small villages, in the woods or the forest and on the roads, in the mountains and on the sea...in so many places in our world, on the five continents!



Spring Morning  
by Yokoyama Taikan

### The Good News today

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead. (*John 20: 1-9*)

### Commentary:

When Mary Magdalene had told Peter and John what she had seen, they did not see further than the empty tomb and the cloths on the ground, and they withdrew in desperation, not having understood. However she remained there, still weeping, and standing there, resilient (cf. *John 20:11*). The Greek verb used here is "*hístēmi*": which means *to resist, staying put, to hold firm*.

How can we not identify with this woman's body, bent over and weeping in front of the tomb? How many tears have been shed during this time of waiting, how many exhausted and grieving bodies, and how many farewells still waiting at the threshold of the heart? Irreparable losses, a pain, and a sadness that have not been able to be embraced.

Mary Magdalene stayed put and turned to look once more, but her eyes were still held by sadness. Until she is awakened by a voice, the voice of love searching for her. Something quiets in her, something (in her) recognises him: *Rabbuni!* – she says to him – my master. The one who was teaching her to live differently.

(“Miróforas. Bearers of perfumes at the dawn of the world” Mariola López Villanueva)

## **Easter in our world**

#Voices of Hope. These women have just been rescued in the middle of the Mediterranean. They are singing to God because they feel safe. We unite ourselves to their Easter song. [CLICK HERE](#)

## **In the light of Fratelli Tutti**

“...We Christians are very much aware that ‘if the music of the Gospel ceases to resonate in our very being, we will lose the joy born of compassion, the tender love born of trust, the capacity for reconciliation that has its source in our knowledge that we have been forgiven and sent forth. If the music of the Gospel ceases to sound in our homes, our public squares, our workplaces, our political and financial life, then we will no longer hear the strains that challenge us to defend the dignity of every man and woman’”. (277)

**Music: Hallelujah!** [CLICK HERE](#)

## **Being Artisans of Hope**

“...Transformation... is always the fruit of an Encounter” [...] It is “the Spirit dwelling within us [that] gradually transforms us”. Believing and understanding this is part of “our experience of personal transformation that previously seemed impossible”. (p. 11)

*What is it...where is it, our source of transformation, of Resurrection, of joy?*

**Today, with Jesus, we celebrate the passage from death to Life. For us, this is a path of transformation, patient and persevering, on personal, social and community levels, and at the level of a deep relationship with Mother Earth, only possible when we open our hearts to the one who is overflowing with Love and Grace.**

Alejandra de la Riva (candidate), Patricia Hevia rscj y Mariola López Villanueva rscj  
*Province of Spain*