

MARCH 27, 2016



EASTER SUNDAY: SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD



ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 10:34A, 37-43

PSALM 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

JOHN 20:1-9 OR LUKE 24:1-12
OR LUKE 24:13-35

COLOSSIANS 3:1-4 OR
1 CORINTHIANS 5:6B-8

REFLECTION

Mary of Magdala comes to the tomb first and finds it empty. She runs to get Peter. Then Peter finds the unnamed disciple (who we now know is John) and they race to the tomb. What causes us to have the need to run and tell someone news when we are in shock? Why might you not believe the person and have to find out for yourself? The story of the Resurrection is about passing on unbelievable information that was foretold—though only for those with ears to hear and live out the meaning. We also see that, although John arrived first, he let Peter go into the tomb first. Would you allow the person behind you to go in and see the amazing news first? That is not a usual response.

Jesus told Peter, “upon this rock [Peter] I will build my church” (Matthew 16:18). Maybe this is why Peter had to go in first—he had to see the proof to be that foundation of absolute witnessing for the rest of us. And maybe we need to be like John and allow others to go before us—even when we want to get the credit. Easter is about letting go and giving God ALL the credit and praise for conquering death and allowing us to follow him into a new life. Are you ready to keep singing praises for the next fifty days?



MURAL OF THE RESURRECTION

<http://www.godtube.com/watch/?v=KLLLZWNX>

ACTION

Be happy! Seriously. This week is called the Octave of Easter because from Easter Sunday through next Sunday, we are in a state of rejoicing. This week is like Lollapalooza for Catholics—it is intensely filled with praise and prayer. Find ways to proclaim and praise the fabulous news of the Resurrection. If you have never listened to a Christian radio station before, find one and play it for the week. If you already like that music, introduce a friend or family member to the gift of joyful music!



JOURNALING QUESTIONS



- What kinds of things do you need proof for before you believe?
- Which character would you be in today's Gospel and why?
- How do you think you would react if the Resurrection happened today and you were the first person on the scene?