

Easter Sunday

Order of Worship

April 12, 2020 - Cycle A

Mary of Magdala, Apostle to the Apostles Catholic Community



Gathering Rite

Gathering preparation

Prepare your worship area with a lit candle, symbol of the Paschal , a small bowl of water, a dish with a piece of bread or a cracker, and a cup of wine or juice. You might like to add flowers or a plant and something that represents the sacred to you.

Gathering Song *(Ring a bell if you have one!)*

Greeting

We begin our prayer today, together in one Spirit, In the name of ✠ our Creator, Redeemer and Abiding Spirit. Amen

God be with us all.

Welcome from Pastor Alice

Welcome to Mary of Magdala, Apostle to the Apostles inclusive Vatican II Catholic Community, during this time of travail and isolation. While it restricts our ability to be together, it does not prevent our ability to joyfully celebrate the Good News that Jesus has risen from the dead to bring us everlasting life. Alleluia!!

All are encouraged to participate in communion at the tables of thanksgiving in our own homes. We look forward to sharing worship, companionship, conversation, and refreshments together in the future. In the meantime, we are blessed to have the ability to pray in unity and thanksgiving, despite our distance. Please know that even though we are like the disciples waiting in their locked room on the morning of the resurrection, we will rise again from the tomb of isolation brought on by this dread disease. The promise of the resurrection tells us so.

Since *liturgy* means the work of the people, you will find that today we will reclaim from the earliest years of Christianity, what was called the *Commercium*, which is Latin for the “exchange,” where we offer back to God, what God has already blessed us with. It makes very clear that it is the people who are the ministers of the liturgy and the people who bring the gifts, offer their prayers and express their beliefs. It is the people who ask for the blessing over the gifts and it is the believers who offer the Eucharistic prayer. Your Easter prayers today are your work. Is truly liturgy, truly the work of the people.

We begin our praise and worship today with the opening prayer, the blessing of the water, the renewal of our baptismal promises, and the Gloria as we sprinkle ourselves with the blessed water that recalls our baptisms.

Opening Prayer

God, creator of all, on this day of Easter joy, we remember how Jesus appeared to Mary of Magdala, who had begun to lose hope, and how he opened her eyes to what the scriptures foretold: that first he must die, and then he would rise and ascend into God’s glorious presence. May the risen Jesus open our minds and our eyes in that same way, so that we may know him in the breaking of bread, in the needs of others and in the love we share. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Blessing of the water (*Dip your fingers into the water to make the sign of the cross in it.*)

Creator God, your gift of water brings life and freshness to the earth; it washes away our sins and brings us eternal life. We ask you now to bless ✠ this water. Renew the living spring of your life within us and protect us in spirit and body, that we may be free from sin and come into your presence to receive your gift of salvation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Through the paschal mystery we have been buried with Christ in baptism, so that we may rise with him to a new life. Now that we have completed our Lenten observance, we renew the promises made for us in baptism.

And so, I say:

I do reject *Satan*, father of sin and prince of darkness and all his works.

And I do reject all his empty promises.

I do reject *sin*, so as to live in freedom as one of God's own people.

I do reject the *glamour of evil*, and refuse to be mastered by sin.

I do believe in *God*, the almighty creator of heaven and earth.

I do believe in *Jesus Christ*, God's only son, who was born of the woman Mary, was crucified, died and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of God.

I do believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

God, the all-powerful parent of our Lord Jesus Christ, has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and has forgiven all our sins. May God also keep us faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ forever and ever. May almighty God cleanse us of our sins, and through the celebration of this Eucharist make us worthy to share at the table of God's Kingdom. Amen.

Sprinkling Rite (Bless yourself with the water.)

Gloria (Ring your bell!)

Liturgy of the Word

First reading Acts 10: 34-43

So Peter addressed Cornelius and the people assembled in the house in these words, “I begin to see how true it is that God shows no partiality—rather, that any person of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to God.

You yourselves know what took place throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee with the baptism John proclaimed. You know how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how Jesus went about doing good works and healing all who were in the grip of the Devil, because God was with him. We are eyewitnesses to all that Jesus did in the countryside and in Jerusalem. Finally, Jesus was killed and hung on a tree, only to be raised by God on the third day. God allowed him to be seen, not only by the witnesses who had been chosen beforehand by God—that is, by us, who ate and drank with Christ after the resurrection from the dead. And Christ commissioned us to preach to the people and to bear witness that this is the one set apart by God as judge of the living and the dead. To Christ Jesus all the prophets testify, that everyone who believes has forgiveness of sins through this name.”

The Word of God. Thanks be to God!

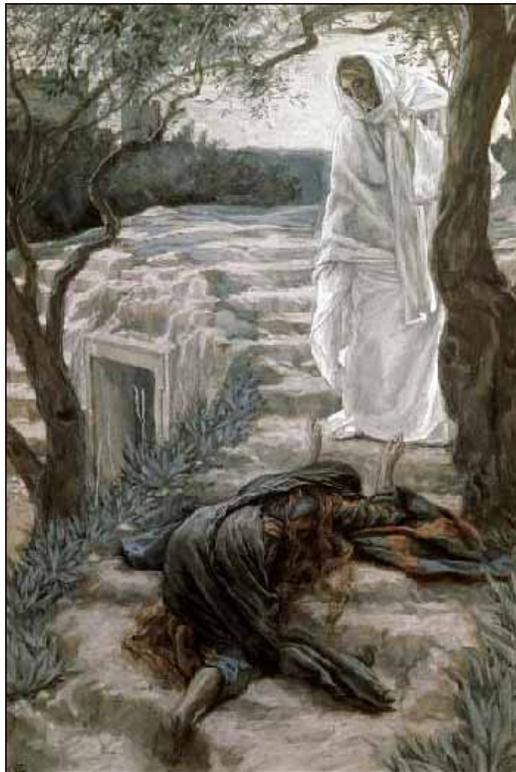
Psalm

Second Reading **Letter of Paul to the Colossians 3:1-4**

Since you have been resurrected with Christ, set your heart on what pertains to higher realms, where Christ is seated at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on things of earth. After all, you died, and now your life is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ—who is your life—is revealed, you too will be revealed with Christ in glory.

The Word of God. Thanks be to God!

Alleluia! *(Ring your bell!)*



Gospel **John 20:1-10, 11-18**

Early in the morning on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance, so she ran off to Simon Peter and the other disciple—the one Jesus loved—and told them, ***“The Rabbi has been taken from the tomb! We don’t know where they have put Jesus!”***

At that, Peter and the other disciple started out toward the tomb. They were running side by side, but then the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He didn’t enter, but bent down to peer in and saw the linen wrappings lying on the ground.

Then Simon Peter arrived and entered the tomb. He observed the linen wrappings on the ground and saw the piece of cloth that had covered Jesus' head lying not with the wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the disciple who had arrived first at the tomb went in. He saw and believed.

As yet, they didn't understand the scripture that Jesus was to rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes. *But*, Mary stayed outside the tomb weeping. And as she wept, she stooped to peer inside, and she saw two angels in white sitting there. One was seated at the head and the other at the foot of the place where Jesus' body had lain.

They asked her, *"Woman, why are you weeping?"* She answered them, *"Because they have taken away my Rabbi, and I don't know where they have put the body."* No sooner had she said this than she turned around and caught sight of Jesus standing there, but she didn't know it was Jesus. Jesus asked her, *"Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?"*

She thought it was the gardener, so she said, *"Sir, if you are the one who carried him away, tell me where you've laid him and I will take him."* Jesus said to her, *"Mary!"* She turned to him and said, *"Rabbouni!"* – which means *"Teacher."* Jesus then said, *"Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to Abba God. Rather, go to the sisters and brothers and tell them, I am ascending to my Abba and to your Abba, my God and your God!"*

Mary of Magdala went and announced to the disciples. "I have seen the Teacher!" Then she reported what the savior had said to her.



The Good News of Salvation. Glory and praise to you, Jesus Christ!

Shared Homily (Please welcome Mary of Magdala who will share her first hand account in the second attached document.)

The Commercium (The Exchange)

During the Commercium, the exchange, we profess our faith, offer our prayers, present our gifts of bread and wine, service and gifts for the poor, offering them back to God, from whom they came, blessing God as we do so. Then, we pray the Eucharistic prayer.

Prayers of the Faithful

Response: "Thank you, O God. for the promise of resurrection."

We pray for our world, brought low by disease,
that our merciful God, source of all life, health and healing will look with
compassion upon the sorrowful condition of your children who suffer because of
this pandemic, and protect us in the midst of the grave challenges that assail us
and help us all to persevere in faith.

We pray for the sick and the stricken,
that their pain will be relieved, that they will recover and be restored to health.

We pray for all those who care for the sick and stricken,
that they will all be protected from all harm and that they will be successful in
working to eradicate this scourge.

We pray for all those who suffer the consequences of the current pandemic,
that they will be comforted.

We pray for all the victims who have died,
that they will be welcomed into your peace,

We pray for an end to the pandemic that afflicts our world,
that we may all find comfort in your merciful love throughout this time of
tribulation, and new ways to live Jesus.

Preparation Song (*ring your bell!*)

Blessing Prayers over the gifts

Blessed are you, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, God of all creation. Through your goodness we humbly offer our gifts of time, talent, and treasure back to you as the work of our human hand. They will become the instruments of your presence among us.

Blessed be God for ever.

We pray that our gifts may be acceptable to our loving God for the praise and glory of God's name, for our good, and the good of all. Amen.

Preface Dialogue:

God be with us. We lift up our hearts to God. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Preface prayer:

We give you thanks, O God, for the life and work of your son, Jesus, among us. He leveled the mountains of ignorance and injustice. He stretched the visions of our beliefs and imaginations far beyond their normal horizons. He readily forgave our sins and faults. He died for us and he rose for us. May this meal express our thankfulness to you, O God, as the presence of your Spirit deepens in our grateful community. We unite our voices as sisters and brothers with those of the whole Church as we praise you for your glory,

Holy, Holy, Holy

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Epiclesis *(Invocation of the Holy Spirit)*

Loving and merciful God, Jesus offered your love to all by inviting all people to share in Your love and companionship at this communion table. Send your Holy Spirit now + to transform these simple gifts of bread and wine that they, and we, may become the body and blood of Jesus.

Institution Narrative

We recall that on the night before he died, Jesus took the bread gave you thanks and praise, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends and said, ***“Take this all of you and eat. This is my body which will be given up for you.”***

At the end of the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine, again gave you thanks and praise, and gave the cup to those present and said, ***“Take this, all of you and drink from it. This is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.”***

Memorial Acclamation Christ has died , Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Anamnesis, Offering, Intercessions

Through the Spirit’s power, after his death, Jesus was raised to life again! Jesus remains the first-born of creation. He is the dawn from on high who is forever breaking into our world to remove fear and anxiety from all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Now Jesus guides us to peace through the presence of the indwelling Spirit, filling us with hope and joy, even in these universal days of illness, worry and fear.

God of all mercies, gather into your loving embrace all those who are reaching the end of their pilgrimage of earthly life, and those who have died, especially those for whom we now pray in the stillness of our hearts.

God, may your kin_dom take root and grow in our hearts. Shatter the darkness of our lives with the light of your wisdom. Protect us, O God, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day. In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we strive everyday to be a reflection of your gentle and faithful love and to make present the life of your Son. We await in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Doxology

Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, loving God, forever and ever. Amen

Disciples' prayer

"Holy One, Source of All, Great Spirit, Yahweh, Allah, Our Mother, Our Father who art in heaven, holy be Your name; your kin-dom come; your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; lead us out of temptation, and deliver us from evil. For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours. Amen.

Sign of Peace

Peace be with with you. On the morning of the resurrection, Jesus greeted Mary of Magdala and the other women outside the tomb with the word, "Shalom, Peace." Jesus said, "I leave you peace, my peace I give to you. Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your pilgrim Church in need of conversion, and grant us the peace and unity of your kin_dom, where you live for ever and ever." We offer each other a spiritual sign of Christ's peace, blessing the space between us.

Communion***Breaking of the Bread***

This is the Jesus, who calls us to love one another. Jesus, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free. You are the Savior of the world.

The body of Christ. Amen. The blood of Christ. Amen.

Communion hymn (Ring your bell!)

Prayer after communion:

Gracious God, As our Easter journey now leads us to Pentecost, help us keep our faith strong in this time of trial so that, like Jesus, we can empty ourselves for the sake of others.

Source of all Love, watch over your church and bring us to the glory of the resurrection promised by this Easter sacrament. By this Eucharist may we grow in our ability to love and to live our Vatican II faith in the world. Bless our efforts to serve you by loving others well. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Closing Rite

Greeting God be with us all.

Blessing May almighty God bless us and keep us on this joyful feast of Easter. Amen.
May God's face shine upon us and give us peace. Amen.

In the name of the Creator, ✠ the Redeemer and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Dismissal prayer

With the help of God, we now go forth to "Live Jesus," bringing God's loving presence to our communities, through faith, Sacrament and outreach in whatever ways we can. Thanks be to God. Amen!



Going Forth Hymn (Ring your bell!)

Mary of Magdala, Apostle to the Apostles Catholic Church
An Inclusive Vatican II Catholic Community

1529 Wauwatosa Avenue Wauwatosa, WI 53213
Serving Southeastern Wisconsin.

9:45 a.m. Mass on Sundays will resume when safely possible.

Until then, Jim will host Zoom worship services: April 19, May 3, May 17, and May 24.

Alice will provide the Community with Services for Prayer at Home on April 26, May 10, May 31.

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(Mary of Magdala Apostolic Times, Community Conversations)

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Art work on page 7 is by Margaret Baudette, SC. Cards with this image can be purchased from futurechurch.org.