

The members of the Oblate family connect with each other through this prayer on the third Sunday every month.

ORAISON

20th April 2025

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EVANGELIUM LIVE: John 20,1-18

Honestly, I think it's good that Mary's crying. I can relate to it very well. I've cried quite a lot since I've grown up. Life often turns out differently than I hoped, or it's just too much. And so, as I read this Easter Gospel, I spend quite a bit of time with this weeping woman. It's like she's looking into my heart and I'm looking into hers. They ask Mary twice why she is crying. I think it's right. Sometimes it helps to just ask what's wrong so you can start again after crying.

Mary weeps for Jesus and the life she could have lived with him. She weeps for the terrible events that happened and for the fact that she could do nothing about them. And then she hears something incredibly tender, embracing, comforting and familiar: her own name in the voice of someone she knows and loves very well.

It doesn't change the fact that Mary doesn't continue to spend her life with Jesus. And yet



everything is different for Mary afterwards. When I read this Bible passage, I realize that the worst part of my crises and disappointments is actually when I lose confidence that God has good intentions for me. But if in these moments I manage to be attentive to this incredibly tender voice of Jesus, which also pronounces my name when I cry, then with it the strength grows to get up again.

Love is the eye. When we see with love we not only see straight and clearly we also see depth and meaning. The reverse is also true. It is not for some arbitrary reason that after Jesus rose from the dead some could see him and others could not. Love is the eye. Those searching for life through the eyes of love, like Mary of Magdala searching for Jesus in the Garden on Easter Sunday morning, see spring and the resurrection. (Ron Rolheiser OMI)

John 20,1-18

On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, “They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don’t know where they put him.” So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the scripture that he had to rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned home.

But Mary stayed outside the tomb weeping. And as she wept, she bent over into the tomb and saw two angels in white sitting there, one at the head and one at the feet where the body of Jesus had been. And they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken my Lord, and I don’t know where they laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus there, but did not know it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” She thought it was the gardener and said to him, “Sir, if you carried him away, tell me where you laid him, and I will take him.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni,” which means Teacher. Jesus said to her, “Stop holding on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am going to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary of Magdala went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord,” and what he told her.

