



Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters

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Dear Friends,

Greetings of Spring!

The Easter Mystery and the whole Easter Season has something to do with seeking and finding; Mary Magdalene and the other women went to the tomb thinking of Jesus' body being buried in haste and not having received the loving attention they owed him. Their minds full of care and their hearts bursting with sorrow, they cannot find him. Mary Magdalene cannot recognize Jesus, mistaking him for the gardener. She

is seeking the dead master: "Where have you put him?" But Jesus is coming to her, calling her name: "Mary", reaching her heart where his voice is unmistakably his. Her heart hears and sees and recognizes: "Rabboni!"

After being thus recognized and called by the Lord and on her part recognizing and acknowledging his Risen Presence, she is being sent on the all important mission: "Go and tell my brothers." Now her private search has turned into very public witnessing, witnessing not to death but to the living Jesus.

Peter and with him the other disciples and apostles experience something similar. They mourn their loss; they hide themselves behind locked doors. They do not know where to turn next, when Jesus seeks them. He finds them in the locked room, he walks with them when they are leaving the city with heavy hearts; he stands waiting for them at the seashore, and he particularly looks for Thomas to call him back into faith and trust.

Jesus coaches them for the moment of their sending. He releases them from fear; he gives them his Peace and promises the Holy Spirit. Their call to witness and preach the Good News, in fact to continue the very mission the Father had given to Jesus is far beyond their understanding and comprehension. But the Holy Spirit will come and transform them into people who want to obey God rather than men. They will be fearlessly speaking of the resurrection and will do good in the name of this Jesus whom they now recognize and acknowledge as their only Master.

In the Acts of the Apostles we read how the Holy Spirit guided the disciples in fulfilling their call to mission with great faithfulness. They struggled to obey the Holy Spirit; they suffered for their love of God and their total commitment to God's people. They learned to serve one another and honor the least among them as they longed to honor Jesus.

"What so ever you do to the least of these, you do to me," the Master has said. All of us are called and being sought after by Jesus to become Easter people, graced to receive the Holy Spirit and the holy mandate of being on God's mission.

Together with Mary let us pray in this her month of May for the power of the Holy Spirit to transform each one of us into people who can hear and recognize the Lord's voice when he calls!

Sr. Agathe and Sr. Veronica Marie, SSpS

PS. Let me remind you that there is a Discipleship Retreat on Pentecost weekend, May 29-31 (or June 1, if you want to stay on) here at the Convent of the Holy Spirit. You are welcome to attend. The retreat is free of charge.

Called by the Spirit, Embracing the World.