

Solemnity of the Resurrection of Our Lord
(Reflections based on Scripture and *Cantata of Love*)

Let us reflect, this Glorious Easter Day, on the parallel between the race of the Bride in the Song of Songs and of that other race of Mary Magdalen to the empty tomb of Jesus on Easter morning. It is the same loving search, the same wild haste, though the same city before day break, the same anguish, the same tears, and the same joy when the Bridegroom is found!

John 20: 1, 12

Now on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalen came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that he someone had been taken away...she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus has lain..."Woman why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."

Song of Songs 3:3 "Have you seen him whom my heart loves?"

Song: "My Beloved"

Creed

Aspiration V. Christ our Victor, **R. You are our light and our life!**

First Decade

John 20: 13-16

"Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." Saying this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rab-bo'ni!" Song of Songs 3:4 "I found him whom my heart loves."

The Bridegroom, now risen in glory, returns to His Bride and he can only stammer in admiration when he sees his love so beautiful because she loves, so beautiful because she is loved. Christ never speaks words of reproach, never chastises, gives advice or suggests a task. When he speaks to his Bride it is only to love and admire her.

Second Decade

John 20: 16 "Jesus said to her, "Mary."

Song 2:14 "My dove, show me your face, let me hear your voice

The Bridegroom, now risen, has shaken of the darkness of the night, calls his Bride by name, back to his side...Let us go, arise, my very beautiful love...come to contemplate in my heart the gap cut in my side, when my body was so sadly destroyed. Come and show me your face."

Third Decade

John 20:18 "And Mary Magdalene went to the disciples and said, "I have seen the Lord!"

She now proclaims to all the world, now that her love has been returned to her: "My beloved is mine, and I am his!" (Song 2:16)

Fourth Decade

John 20: 19 Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

The Savior's love transforms His Bride into a living figure of plenitude and peace...she is the image of triumphant peace. She bears his name and enjoys the freedom of his Paschal peace.

Fifth Decade

John 20: 21 Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you.’ And when he had said this he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”

Song 1:2 “Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth.”

The Holy Spirit is the kiss that the mouth of the Risen Son imprints forever on the hearts of his Brides. The same kiss eternally unites the Father and the Son in the Trinity, is now uniting the Bridegroom with his Bride. The gift of the Holy Spirit at the Resurrection is an invitation to Trinitarian Intimacy.

Salve Regina

Litany of the Resurrection by Blessed John Henry Newman

LORD, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, hear us.

Christ, graciously bear us.

God the Father of Heaven, *have mercy on us.*

God the Son, Redeemer of the world, *have mercy....*

God the Holy Ghost,

Holy Trinity, one God,

Jesus, Redeemer of mankind,

Jesus, Conqueror of sin and Satan,

Jesus, triumphant over Death.,

Jesus, the Holy and the Just,

Jesus, the Resurrection and the Life,

Jesus, the Giver of grace,

Jesus, the Judge of the world,

Who didst lay down Thy life for Thy sheep, *have mercy on us.*

Who didst rise again the third day,

Who didst manifest Thyself to Thy chosen,

Visiting Thy blessed Mother,

Appearing to Magdalen while she wept,

Sending Thy angels to the holy women,

Comforting the Eleven,

Saying to them, Peace,

Breathing on them the Holy Ghost,

Confirming the faith of Thomas,

Committing Thy flock to Peter,

Speaking of the Kingdom of God,

We sinners, *beseech Thee, hear us.*

That we may walk in newness of life, *we beseech Thee hear us.*

That we may advance in the knowledge of Thee,

That we may grow in grace,

That we may ever have the bread of life,

That we may persevere unto the end,

That we may have confidence before Thee at Thy coming,

That we may behold Thy face with joy,

That we may be placed at Thy right hand in the judgment.

That we may have our lot with the saints,

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,

Spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,

Graciously hear us, O Lord..

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,

Have mercy on us.

Christ, hear us.

Christ, graciously bear us.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ is risen, Alleluia.

He is risen indeed, and hath appeared unto Simon, Alleluia.

Let us pray (together)

“God, who by Thy only-begotten Son hast overcome death, and opened for us the way to eternal life, vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, so to confirm us by Thy grace, that we may in all things walk after the manner of those who have been redeemed from their sins, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen