



Pastor's Message

April 23, 2020

According to the Gospel of Mark, after Jesus had risen, “early on the first day of the week,” he appeared to Mary Magdalene. Then, she “told his companions He was alive! But, when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe.” They did not believe! His closest friends put no faith in what she told them! Isn’t that troubling?

Immediately thereafter, it is written, “He appeared in another form to two of them walking along on their way to the country.” And, guess what happened after that? Mark wrote, “They returned and told the others, but they did not believe them either.” What? Again! No belief?

Mark concluded, “As the Eleven were at table, He appeared to them and rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart because they had not believed those who saw Him after he had been raised.”

What is the lesson? Well, there is definitely more than one. Maybe, three.

1. Faith is not knowledge. Faith is your acceptance something is true, even though you may not know for absolute certain it is.
2. Sometimes the best news can come to you from the most unlikely people. For example, according to the Gospel of Mark, Mary Magdalene was a woman burdened with ‘seven demons.’ Seven is the perfect number. So, the implication she was “perfectly possessed.” Apparently, Mary Magdalene was in desperate need of an exorcism, at one time in her life. And, she did receive it from Jesus, thus becoming freed from the demons dominating her. Indeed, an unlikely person to deliver the breaking news, Jesus was alive!
3. Sooner or later, surely, we will encounter the risen Lord. Then, each of us will receive His final judgement about our faithfulness as a believer, as well as the lack thereof.

Keep the faith. Most especially, if comes delivered from someone you don’t expect!

Fr. Marc