



# Daily Reflections

**April 2, 2018**

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## Scripture

### **Matthew 28: 8-15**

Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went away quickly from the tomb, fearful yet overjoyed, and ran to announce the news to his disciples.

And behold, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them.

They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage.

Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid.

Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

While they were going, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests all that had happened.

The chief priests assembled with the elders and took counsel; then they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers,

telling them, "You are to say,

'His disciples came by night and stole him while we were asleep.'

And if this gets to the ears of the governor,

we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble."

The soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed.

And this story has circulated among the Jews to the present day.

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## Our Scripture Reflection

The reality of Jesus' resurrection was difficult to grasp. No one had ever been raised from the dead before Him. That it had really and truly happened still

left Mary and the other women fearful even after seeing Him. On the other hand, it did nothing to endear the chief priests and elders to the Risen Lord. They resented the Truth of the resurrection choosing instead to embrace the lie. Some things have not changed in over two thousand years.

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## **Food for your Journey**

Waking up, opening your eyes to the possibilities of life, can be an intimidating experience. Humans, like all creatures, seek the comfortable and the familiar, even when it is a limited, constricting existence. A study of congenital cataract patients provides a dramatic example of this tendency. After eye-opening surgery these people who had been blind all their lives could suddenly see. While some embraced this freedom with fervor, others were overwhelmed by their new vision of the world. Some voluntarily closed their eyes, pretending to be blind again. Others were nearly driven mad by what seemed like a never-ending bombardment of images assaulting their brains, and threatened to tear out their eyes. Seeing their own faces and the faces of loved ones was also a shock - imagine suddenly finding out you don't look at all like you thought you did. Also consider how painful it would be seeing sorrow, rage, worry and indifference for the first time. Seeing is difficult, both on physical and spiritual levels. For all its deprivation, blindness can be a familiar and comforting way to "get by."

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Lord, the resurrection of Your Son  
has given us new life and renewed hope.  
Help us to live as new people  
in pursuit of the Christian ideal.  
Grant us wisdom to know what we must do,  
the will to want to do it,  
the courage to undertake it,  
the perseverance to continue to do it,  
and the strength to complete it. Amen.