

FOR THE WEEKEND OF APR. 4-5a, 2026

Easter Sunday

Gospel Reading

Jn: 20:1-9

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

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.

Intercession

May all who are suffering find healing and strength in the power of your Resurrection and may we be bearers of Christ’s light through support of the Catholic Ministry Appeal.

Copy for Bulletin Announcement

John’s Gospel gives us a quiet, contemplative glimpse of Easter morning. There is no angelic proclamation or sudden appearance of the risen Lord—only an empty tomb, folded cloths, and three disciples struggling to make sense of what they see.

Mary Magdalene runs in confusion. Peter looks and wonders. But the beloved disciple pauses, enters, and believes. He doesn't yet understand everything—but he believes.

This is often how faith works in our lives. We don't always receive clear answers. Many times, we are met with silence or with what feels like absence. And yet, in these moments, we are still invited to trust, to believe not because everything is explained but because God has always been faithful.

As brothers and sisters in Christ, we are called to live that same Resurrection faith. The Catholic Ministry Appeal reveals God's great work through so many programs and initiatives. In supporting the Appeal, we are supporting our Church's mission and playing a part in proclaiming, Christ is risen.

Copy for Pulpit Announcement

In today's Gospel, we enter the mystery of Easter morning through the eyes of Mary Magdalene, Peter, and the beloved disciple. Mary arrives in the darkness of grief only to find the stone rolled away. She rushes to tell the others, and they come running—not yet understanding but searching and hoping for something more. Inside the empty tomb, the beloved disciple sees—and believes.

This moment captures something essential about our own journey of faith. Often, we come with questions. We don't yet fully understand. But when we open our hearts to what God is doing—when we step into the mystery—we are changed. Just as Mary and the disciples ran to the tomb, we, too, are called to run toward Christ, to not only to encounter Him, but to share in His mission.

The power of the Resurrection works through our local Church, and the Catholic Ministry Appeal puts mission into action. When we support the Catholic Ministry Appeal, we help others see and believe and we make the risen Christ present among us.

Social Media Post/Content

Photo: Empty tomb surrounded by light

Header: "He saw and believed"—John 20: 8

Copy: Rejoice, for the tomb is empty. Our Lord has conquered death! In supporting Catholic Ministry Appeal, we are bringing the light of Christ's resurrection to others.