

# MORNING MEDITATION

Monday after Easter

**It is in Stillness, our moments of deep quiet that is born every idea, emotion, and drive which we eventually honor with the name of action.**

(Leonard Bernstein)

## **Acts 2:14, 22-32**

Peter makes very bold proclamations about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The man who denied knowing Jesus has now risen to great courage and freedom that he can now affirm who Jesus is for him and for the world. The man who was afraid to give witness to Jesus now says: "This is the Jesus God has raised up and we are his witnesses".

**The risen Jesus gives us a new power and freedom to be his witnesses in the world.**

## **Psalm 16**

Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge,  
I say to the Lord, "My Lord are you."  
O Lord, my allotted portion and my cup,  
you it is who hold fast my lot.

## **Mathew 28:8-15**

Mathew tells us that Mary of Magdala came to the tomb of Jesus with the other Mary. They had a tremendous experience in which an angel told them that Jesus had been raised from the dead and that his tomb was empty. They were given a mission to go and tell the disciples: "He has been raised from the dead and now goes ahead of you to Galilee, where you will see him".

**The women were fearful, but they loved much and with much love, they went to visit the tomb of their mater. They looked beyond their fears and their tears and they found their master and friend, Jesus, alive!**

Mathew tells us, in the Gospel reading of today, that the women, "half-overjoyed and half-fearful", ran to carry the good news to the disciples. They found an urgency to run because their master was alive and they ran, carrying good news. They loved much and they ran with love.....they were blessed again..... Jesus met them in this urgency, in this "running with good news" and he gifted them again, "PEACE" and send them to the disciples with the message that he would meet them in Galilee.

**There is an urgency, now more than ever before, for us, to announce the good news of the resurrection, the good news of the gift of God's peace. We are people of the resurrection, people gifted with God's peace. We must proclaim this good news.**

**Saint of the Day, April 13**

## **St. Martin I and 8 other saints are remembered this day.**

Martinus was born on June 21, 598 near Todi, Umbria. We do not have information about his birth and early life. He was of noble birth, of commanding intelligence, and of great charity to the poor. He acted as papal legate at Constantinople in the early years of the pontificate of Pope Theodore I (642–49), and was a deacon at the time of his election as Pope in 649.

When Martin I became pope in 649, Constantinople was the capital of the Byzantine empire and the patriarch of Constantinople was the most influential Church leader in the Eastern Christian world. The struggles that existed within the Church at that time were magnified by the close cooperation of emperor and patriarch.

A teaching, strongly supported in the East, held that Christ had no human will. Twice, emperors had officially favored this position: Heraclius by publishing a formula of faith, and Constans II by silencing the issue of one or two wills in Christ.

Shortly after assuming the office of the papacy—which he did without first being confirmed by the emperor—Martin held a council at the Lateran in which the imperial documents were censured, and in which the patriarch of Constantinople and two of his predecessors were condemned. In response, Constans II first tried to turn bishops and people against the pope.

Failing in this and in an attempt to kill the pope, the emperor sent troops to Rome to seize Martin and to bring him back to Constantinople. Already in poor health, Martin offered no resistance, returned with Calliopas, the exarch of Constantinople, and was then submitted to various imprisonments, tortures, and hardships. Although condemned to death and with some of the imposed torture already carried out, Martin was saved from execution by the pleas of a repentant Paul, patriarch of Constantinople, who was himself gravely ill. Tortures and cruel treatment having taken their toll, Martin died September 16, 655. He is the last of the early popes to be venerated as a martyr.

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