

He is risen indeed!

The women who had followed Jesus from Galilee to Jerusalem, were the benefactors who assisted him and his 12 apostles in their material needs. Each of these women had a personal story of conversion and transformation; their encounter with Jesus had changed them forever ; they had experienced forgiveness of their sins and the unconditional loving mercy of God.

They had promised to follow him wherever he would go.

Now, these same women are in mourning. Jesus, who loved them and had welcomed them in his circle of friends, has been arrested, tortured and executed like a criminal on a cross. They are inconsolable as they walk to the tomb where Jesus is buried. They have brought spices and other ointments in order to finish the embalming of his body they were unable to complete on the Sabbath.

Imagine the shock when, upon arriving at the tomb, they find it empty!

They immediately thought the worst: someone must have desecrated the tomb and stolen the body of Jesus.

Who could be so cruel?

As they enter the tomb, another surprise awaits them: two angels appear to them in the form of two young men. They reassure them that Jesus has risen back to life, and now is waiting for them in Galilee!

Filled with joy and excitement, they run to the house where the rest of the disciples are hiding, and give them the good news!

The disciples don't believe them: the resurrection of Jesus is too good to be true!

After all they had seen him tortured and crucified. It was reported that a soldier had even pierced his heart with a spear, just to make sure he was dead.

Two of the apostles, Peter and John go and check out the facts for themselves: it is true. The body of Jesus is not there!

The story gets more interesting and exciting, because Jesus himself, in the flesh, appears to the disciples, thus confirming the women's report.

Jesus is with his friends once again. He is alive! They can touch him, speak with him, eat with him...

What now?

Jesus breathes on them his Holy Spirit, and opens their mind to understand their mission: they are to go all over the world to teach what he taught, and to proclaim the good news that Jesus is the Son of the living God, who came to save the world from their sins, that he was dead, but now he is alive, and that everyone who will believe in Him, will never die, but will have eternal life, and at the end of times, will experience the resurrection of the body like Jesus.

Since then, the Catholic Church, established by Jesus on the apostles, continues the mission to proclaim that Jesus is risen from the dead, that He is alive and active, and that He remains among us as the Risen Lord, especially in the Eucharistic Bread.

At each and every Mass, Jesus' last Supper is made present for us; we assist to a real miracle: the bread and the wine are changed into the body, blood, soul and divinity of the Risen Jesus. With the angels and the communion of Saints we gather around the table of the altar, like his disciples, and adore the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. He then invites us to approach Him to take part in the heavenly banquet.

YES, IT IS TRUE, JESUS IS RISEN. HE IS RISEN INDEED!

HE IS ESPECIALLY PRESENT AT EVERY MASS!