

Reflection Easter Tuesday 2024

Isn't it good that Jesus knows us by name and calls each of us by name each morning to wake us up to a new day with him?

Even though Jesus was no longer in the tomb, Mary of Magdala still does not realise that Jesus had risen, but her love for Jesus keeps her near the tomb, where Jesus had been laid. Her patience and love were rewarded when Jesus came to her. In this Easter season we too want an experience of Jesus that opens us to his presence in us and around us. Be patient and your love will be rewarded. Jesus knows you by name!

It was in response to the grief of Mary that the risen Lord came to her. Initially, Mary's grief blinds her to his presence and she mistakes him for the gardener. When we are grieving the loss of a loved one, we easily fail to recognize the Lord's presence. Grief can overwhelm and isolate us. But Jesus is always there, *especially* in our darkest moments. He comes to us as he came to Mary bringing light into our darkness and proclaiming the triumph of life over death. Mary became a primary preacher of the Easter gospel that continues to be proclaimed to us through her. The risen Lord is always in a deeply personal relationship with us, even in those times when we feel we have drifted away from him or when we don't feel his presence. He never drifts away from us.

Jesus is always there for us because he risen. Alleluia! Alleluia!