

Thoughts on the Daily Word

Easter Octave. Saturday 11th April. Readings: Acts 4:13-21; Psalm 117; Mark 16:9-15.

It is sad that the companions of Jesus could not believe this woman who had been so faithful to Jesus, even to the foot of the cross. But then they couldn't really believe the couple who had met Jesus on their way home to Emmaus. Once again, it is the meeting at the table, the breaking of bread, that brings Jesus alive to the disciples. It is pointed out that Mary has had devils driven out by Jesus. Perhaps this is pointing out the unity or oneness that is lacking in the disciples. Demons are dividers and it is Mary who has been healed of them. The disciples are rejecting the witness of their companions by refusing to believe. How different from the words that Jesus says to them in John's story of the Passion, 'Peace to you'. The word peace in Hebrew means a blessing of unity and togetherness. May all your brokenness be healed, made one. This is the power of the Resurrection life, to heal our divisions, both within and without. How we need to hear that word today in our world.