Tuesday in the Octave of Easter

Gospel text (*Jn* 20:11-18): Mary Magdalene stayed outside the tomb weeping. And as she wept (…) she turned around and saw Jesus there, but did not know it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" She thought it was the gardener and said to him, "Sir, if you carried him away, tell me where you laid him, and I will take him." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni," which means Teacher (…).

Jesus' Resurrection: a type of life utterly new

EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI)
(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today, and during the Octave of Easter, we consider the New Testament testimonies that leave us in no doubt that what happened in the "Resurrection of the Son of Man" was something utterly different.

Jesus' Resurrection was about breaking out into an entirely new form of life, a life that is no longer subject to the law of dying and becoming, but it lies beyond it; a life that opens up a new dimension of human existence. Therefore, the Resurrection of Jesus is not an isolated event that we could set aside as something limited to the past.

—In Jesus' Resurrection a new possibility of human existence is attained that affects everyone and that opens up a future, a new kind of future, for mankind: "But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead: the first of all" (1Co 15:20).

The prayer

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Today, God also wants us to experience as much as Mary Magdalene felt. She longs for Christ. He is her one and only aim. The rest does not matter: manifestations, angels… nothing! She looks for Christ and she comes to realize that it is He who looks for her, who appears different (a gardener), and contrives ways to meet her.

We are also looking for Him in our prayers, in the tears of our sorrow, in those gaps creatures cannot fill up. However, He holds the leading role: for every step we take towards Him, He takes one thousand steps towards us. Invoke relentlessly, from your own heart, His Holy Name… and you will soon discover with

great consolation your own name spoken from His mouth.

—Master, You are always with me though I may not always be with You; be my only treasure, my great joy, my true love, my everything, my resurrection, my new life, my victory. I shall wait for You even though You may be hidden to my eyes or if it takes a long time.