

## GOSPEL PEARLS

# Always and at all times

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*And many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will*

*never die. Do you believe this?" "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world." (John 11: 19-27)*

Martha declares her faith in Jesus as that of a man specially favoured by God. But this is not enough to have true faith. The last step of obtaining faith is believing in Jesus as God Himself. In order not to cast any doubts, not only in Martha but also in all those present, before raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus asks for a declaration of faith. Indeed, Jesus does not perform meaningless miracles. In this case, it is not only a question of confirming the faith that Martha and the others present have in Jesus but also their belief in the final resurrection of our bodies. Moreover, Jesus asks for their faith in His very divinity. Do we remember the Lord Jesus every day or only in our times of difficulty? If He is almighty and we are so limited, we need Him always and at all times.