

GOSPEL PEARLS

Resurrexit sicut dixit

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Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following

him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus'[a] head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. (John 20: 1-9)

When Mary Magdalen sees the empty tomb, she feels the loss of Jesus and fear of suffering again. This is why she runs to the apostles Peter and John. The loss and fear she feels is overcome by her faith "in" Jesus and love "of" Jesus. The two apostles then run to the tomb. John arrives first but waits for Peter, a sign of respect for his authority. Jesus's burial cloths are found in an unnatural position, like a shell that's been emptied. The absence of Christ's body is testimony to his Resurrection. *Resurrexit sicut dixit*. He is risen, just like He said He would. Let us ask ourselves: has this unique Easter awakened within us a sincere faith in Jesus or are we spending it like just like any other day focusing more on our earthly concerns rather than on Heaven?