Mary Magdalene and Thomas — ILLUSTRATED SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON — By Alfred J. Buescher

Scripture—John 20:1-29

Planning to anoint the body of Jesus, Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb. It is empty. She tells Peter and John. They realize Jesus has risen and go to tell the disciples.—John 20:1-13.

Mary grieves at the empty tomb. Jesus appears and gives her a message for the disciples. She hurries to tell them she has seen Jesus.—John 20:14-18.

Jesus appears to all the disciples, excepting Thomas. When told, Thomas expresses many doubts, saying he will believe his own eyes, ears and touch.—John 20:19-25.

A week later Jesus appears again, talks to Thomas. He touches Jesus' wounds and his doubts are gone; he believes once more.—John 20:25-29.

MEMORY VERSE: "Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed."—John 20:29.

CHRIST'S ENEMIES

Different, They Had One Aim

(Editor's note: The following material relating to tomorrow's Sunday School lesson is based on copyrighted outlines produced by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of Churches in the U.S. and is used by permission.)

By R.H. RAMSEY

In the events leading up to the Crucifixion, we have encountered men, women, religious officials and Romans, totally different persons with but one thing in common; they were enemies of Christ. From Easter morning to the ascension, the only persons introduced in the Gospels are those who have become followers of Christ.

We meet two of these people in today's lesson. One is Thomas, the doubting disciple who had been with Jesus throughout the three years of His earthly ministry. The other is Mary of Magdala, who is among those who administered to Jesus and the disciples as they traveled about Palestine. While she had no such doubts as Thomas during Jesus' life, they are identical in that neither expected Christ to arise from the dead.

It was to Mary Magdalene that Jesus first appeared after His resurrection. Thomas did not see the Risen Lord for another week. Before dawn on the day after the Sabbath, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb to further anoint the Lord's body and found it empty. Despite a firm belief in Jesus' assurances of resurrection and eternal life, her first thought is that someone has violated the sepulchre and stolen the body.

Running off, she encounters Peter and John, whom she tells of her discovery. They must see for themselves. Entering the tomb, they find the "linen clothes lying." There were no signs of haste or hurry. The grave clothes had been carefully removed and laid in separate places. Clearly the body had neither been stolen by enemies nor taken away by friends. The neatly folded and piled grave clothes gave silent witness to the truth that Jesus, Himself, had left the tomb.

Peter and John hurried away, probably to the upper room where they had last seen and talked personally with Jesus.

There were ten appearances of the Lord Jesus during the 40 days between Easter Sunday and the day of His ascension. His first appearance—to Mary Magdalene—is recorded only by John.

Alone at the tomb, Mary weeps bitterly. Then she observes two angels watching. Whether they actually spoke aloud or not, their voices were audible to Mary. She told of her grief and, almost immediately, sensed the presence of a third party.

Mary first mistakes Him for the gardener. Then He speaks. And she knows He is her beloved Jesus, risen from the dead!

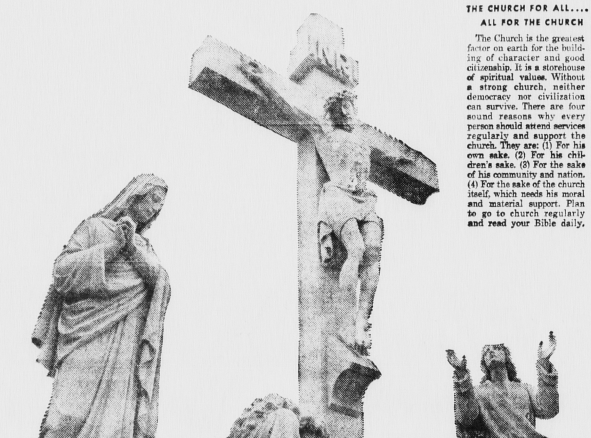
How calm and objective are the verses which follow. How little they reveal of Mary's intense joy and exultation! Jesus gives her a message for the disciples and she hurries off to spread her glad news.

That evening Jesus appears to the disciples, excepting Thomas. He charges them to begin their ministries. When Thomas hears of this, he expresses many doubts (v. 25). For him, the high hopes of Israel had been crushed on the Cross. He was not faithless, but on his way to becoming that way.

Jesus, ever willing to give sincere doubters convincing evidence of the realities of divine truth, orders Thomas to feel Him, to touch His wounds, to prove to himself that the One who stands before him is indeed Jesus and He has indeed risen from the dead.

Thomas does. Suddenly his doubts are gone, his reserve broken. He confesses and receives the risen Christ as his Lord and God.

Then Jesus pronounces what is probably the greatest of His Beatitudes: Blessed are those who walk by faith and not by sight, for in God's own time they shall see His face.



THE CHURCH FOR ALL.... ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. **It is a storehouse of spiritual value.** Without **a strong church,** neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the church. They are: (1) **For his own sake.** (2) **For his children's sake.** (3) **For the sake of his community and nation.** (4) **For the sake of the church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.**

What do you see here? Figures of statuary? A symbol of religion? A monument to the Master?

Look with your heart and you'll see something else. You'll see the soul of the sculptor.

A man mightily inspired — who wanted with his talents to worship Christ — who took stone and chisel and hammer . . . and all the strength of his body . . . and all the faith of his heart. He said to the world with his Art-Words that which he could never have spoken with his lips nor written with his pen.

For twenty centuries Jesus, the Saviour, has inspired our best. In the annals of mankind a million thrilling breakthroughs in human achievement have been dedicated to His service.

So never pass the humblest creation of sacred art — not even the crayoned Bible-picture of a child — without remembering that you too have a soul. And talents to give your God!

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Exodus 20:18-26	Matthew 21:33-46	Mark 12:28-34	Acts 17:22-31	II Corinthians 8:1-6	Philippians 3:1-11	1:16-21

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ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE

READ THE CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS ON THIS PAGE FOR TIMES OF SERVICES

Religious Forces Form Battle Lines

By A. I. GOLDBERG

UNITED NATIONS (AP)— The forces of religion and atheism are drawing up new battle lines in the United Nations.

Their dispute now is over the language of a proposed UN declaration calling for elimination of all forms of religious intolerance. The declaration, if approved, would be followed by the framing of a treaty that all countries would be asked to sign, aimed at giving legal force to the declaration.

The Soviet Union is leading the fight to spell out specifically that atheists are not to be discriminated against.

The United States has agreed to acknowledge freedom of thought and belief for atheists, but it has proposed articles that would assure greater freedom for practice of religious beliefs in such officially atheistic countries as the Soviet Union.

The 21-nation Human Rights Commission was supposed to frame the declaration at a four-week session that began here Feb. 15.

But a proposed treaty to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination had priority and the commission had to refer the religious question back to the social welfare committee of the UN General Assembly that meets here next fall.

A working group of 15 members was set up to report on its status.

The report of the group said "there was no disagreement . . . that the declaration should protect equally the right to adhere to any religion and the right to maintain any non-religious belief."

"Certain members . . . would like to have the draft declaration spell out clearly and categorically the right to non-religious beliefs, including atheism."

The Soviet Union proposed a new paragraph that would "consider that freedom of atheistic beliefs is of the utmost importance to those who profess them, and that freedom of these beliefs, including the right to express them, should therefore be respected and guaranteed."

The United States proposed four new articles that pointed directly at charges that the Soviet Union has restricted Jews in practising their religion.

Now On

CFCY - RADIO

Canada's National

"BACK TO THE BIBLE HOUR"

directed by

Hon. Ernest C. Manning

Premier of Alberta

EVERY SUNDAY

Starting March 29

5 - 6 P.M.

First Baptist Church

Corner of Prince and Fitzroy Streets

Rev. Malcolm F. Harlow, B.A., B.D., Minister
Mrs. V. L. Dingwell, Organist and Choir Director

7:30 a.m.—Sunrise Service
9:45 a.m.—Sunday School for all ages.
Extended session for pre-school children
11:00 a.m.—"RESURRECTION VISITS"
Solo: "There Is A Green Hill Far Away" (Gounod)
Miss June Foster
Anthem: "Very Early In The Morning" (Miles)
7:00 p.m.—"SURPRISED BY JOY"
Easter Carol Service by Adult and Children's Choirs
Solo: "The Pierced Prince"
Mrs. W. G. Cowley
Ordinance of Believer's Baptism will be observed at both services.
A Warm Welcome Awaits You.

Mary Taught Silent Lesson

By CARDINAL McGUIGAN

As the Passion of Our Lord draws to a close the witnesses to that sad event point out that He was crucified between two thieves. From each of them let us learn a final lesson.

There was one who blasphemed Him. This is a warning to us that, even though we may have been brought to know Him and to be constantly near Him in His Church, one may fail to see and to understand, and at the end one may be lost.

Once before He had said: "Power has gone out from Me" —power to quicken and to heal. You would have thought that here above all, as He hung on the Cross, that power would be mighty to heal and renew the soul of man.

POWERLESS

Yet the robber blasphemed Him. This reminds us that there can be a state of soul against which Love itself is powerless because it has hardened itself against Love.

Hell is essentially a state of being which we fashion for ourselves, a state of final separateness from God which is the result of God's repudiation of man but of man's repudiation of God. It is a repudiation which is eternal precisely because it has become, in itself, immovable.

There are analogies to this in human experience. The hate which is so blind, so dark, that love only makes it the more violent. The pride that is so stony that humility only makes it more scornful.

The inertia that has no taken possession of the personality that no crisis, no appeal, no inducement whatsoever can stir it into activity but on the contrary makes it bury itself the more deeply in its immobility.

HARDENED

So with the soul and God. Pride can become hardened into hell, hatred can become hardened into hell, any of the seven root forms of wrongdoing can harden into hell.

And not least that sloth which is boredom with divine things, the inertia that cannot be troubled to repent even though it sees the abyss into which the soul is falling because for so long, in little ways perhaps, it has accustomed itself to refuse whatever might cost it an effort. May God in His mercy save us from that.

But the startling thing in the story remains unexplained. This change of heart, this flooding in of the love that makes heaven is as instantaneous apparently as the effect of our Lord's physical touch on the bodies of men. And how could that be?

Such sudden changes indeed take place, from dark to light, from hatred to love, provided that the soul is not set in the final hardening of hell. But what causes them?

You can think here of a tone of voice, a look from the eyes of Christ. But these things are what they are because they express the personality behind them, express in this case the blinding beauty of uncreated Love.

Charlottetown Bible Chapel

235 Cumberland St. at Longworth Ave.

11:00 a.m.—Family Bible Hour
4:15 Radio Broadcast
7:30 p.m.—Speaker: Milton Poole

Visitors welcome.

St. Paul's Anglican Church

Established 1769 by Royal Foundation

The Rev. F. Louis Elias, L.S.T., Rector
Organist and Choir Director:
George A. Thompson, F.R.C.O., (CHM) A.R.C.M.

EASTER DAY

8:00 a.m.—CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNNION
9:30 a.m.—FAMILY HOLY EUCHARIST (Bring children with you to Communion Railing regardless of age)
11:00 a.m.—SUNDAY SCHOOL, Primary, Beginners and Crib Nursery
11:00 a.m.—CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION
Anthem: "Christ The Lord is Risen Again"
by Eric Thiman
Subject: "ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW"

N.B. There will be no 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, but there will be one at 11:00 a.m.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND OUR SERVICES

The Salvation Army

"Home of Evangelism Since 1865"
Great George Street

35 Villa Avenue — **Major Ronald H. Walker**

7:00 a.m.—Easter Sunday Service
10:00 a.m.—Sunday School
11:00 a.m.—Holiness Meeting
7:00 p.m.—Easter Story, picture and song

"A WELCOME AWAITS YOU AT THE ARMY"

CALVARY TEMPLE

Penteecostal Assemblies of Canada
Upper Prince Street
Rev. C. K. Benn, Pastor

6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service
9:15 a.m. Radio Broadcast, Summerside Station
9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Classes for ALL
SPECIAL EASTER SERVICES WITH GUEST SPEAKER REV. J. McEWEN, DESERONTO, ONTARIO, 11 A.M. AND 7:30 P.M.

ATTEND CHARLOTTETOWN'S FULL GOSPEL CHURCH

Central Christian Church

219 Kent Street — **Charlottetown, P.E.I.**

Morning

10:00 a.m.—Bible School and family hour
11:00 a.m.—Worship service and Communion
Message: "PROOF OF JUSTIFICATION"
Junior Choir: "There is a Green Hill"
Senior and Junior Choirs: "All Creatures of our God."

EVENING

7:00 p.m.—Evangelistic Service
Message: "THE TRIUMPHANT LORD"
Choir: "Message of Triumph"

Minister—Mr. William O. Weale
Organist—Mrs. Allison MacRae, R.C.A.M.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO WORSHIP WITH US

PARK ROYAL UNITED CHURCH

13 Christie Drive, Parkdale

Rev. J. H. Tye, B.A., B.D., Minister.
Mr. Leslie Hiscott,
Organist and Director of Choirs

9:45 a.m.—Youth Adult Bible Class
9:45 a.m.—Junior, Intermediate, Senior Church School
11:00 a.m.—Nursery and Kindergarten Classes
11:00 a.m.—DIVINE WORSHIP
Sermon: "THE DESERTED GRAVE"
Anthem: "O Saviour of the World"—Goss (Senior Choir)
"This Joyful Eastertide"—Dutch Carol
"Chimes of Easter Day"—L. Keating (The Junior Choir)
11:15 a.m.—Primary Church School.
7:00 p.m.—EVENING WORSHIP
Sermon: REPRIEVE GRANTED!
Anthem: "In Joseph's Lovely Garden" —C Dickinson (Senior Choir)
Sacrament of Holy Communion

You are welcome to worship with us.

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

Charlottetown, P. E. I.

Ministers: Rev. J. G. E. Ball, B.A.
Rev. G. G. Wyrwas, B.A., B.D.
Rev. Clayton C. Lewis

Organist & Director of Choirs: Royston F. Mugford, A.R.C.O.

9:30 a.m.—Senior, Intermediate and Junior Church School
11:00 a.m.—Primary, Kindergarten and Nursery
11:00 a.m.—EASTER SUNDAY (Broadcast CFCY)
Sermon: "WAS IT AN IDLE TALE"
Rev. J. Ball
Solo: "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth" —Handel—Mrs. David Cox
"The Hallelujah Chorus"—Handel
7:00 p.m.—Holy Communion
Sermon: "CALLED TO RIGHTEOUSNESS" —Rev. C. C. Lewis
Senior Choir: "Christ Is Risen"—Roberts
"Three Easter Carols"—Whitehead
Junior Girls Choir:—
"Easter Flowers Are Blooming Bright"
"Let The Merry Church Bells Ring"
"This Joyful Eastertide."
Solo: "Now Let Us All With One Accord" —Ruth Womacott

"A WELCOME AWAITS YOU AT TRINITY AND SPRING PARK"

SPRING PARK UNITED CHURCH

(Cor. Kirkwood Drive and Dunkirk Street)
CHURCH SCHOOL

9:30 a.m.—Church School
11:00 a.m.—Nursery in Sunday School Room
11:00 a.m.—Easter Sunday
Sermon: "BELIEVEST THOU THIS"
Rev. C. C. Lewis
Senior Choir: "Sing For The Lord Is Ris'n Today"
Junior Choir: "Christ Arose"

Organist: Mrs. Ron H. Atkinson

Zion Presbyterian Church

Corner Prince and Grafton Streets

The Rev. Donald A. Campbell, B.A., Minister
Miss Roberta Shaw, Deaconess
Mrs. Madelyn MacKinnon, L.Mus., B.Mus.
Organist and Choir Director

9:45 a.m.—The Church School—Classes for all ages
10:00 a.m.—Bible Class 11:00 a.m.—Nursery School
EASTER SUNDAY
11:00 a.m.—DIVINE WORSHIP
Sermon: THE STONE WAS ROLLED AWAY
Anthems: In Joseph's Lovely Garden —Arr. Clar. Dickinson
Soloist—Miss Rachel Minchin
The First Easter Carol—Arthur Ward
7:00 p.m.—DIVINE WORSHIP
Sermon: "THE GLORY ROAD"
Anthems: Easter Thoughts—G. Bender Junior Choir
Alleluia, Alleluia!—Wurzburg Intermediate Choir

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

The Kirk of S. James

The Reverend T. B. B. Somers, M.A., S.T.M., Minister
Organist and Director of the Choirs
Christopher Gledhill, M.A., B.Mus.

9:45 a.m.—Church Scohol Easter Service and dedication of Lenten Missionary Offerings
11:00 a.m.—Churchtime Nursery and Nursery School
11:00 a.m.—THE EASTER CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY COMMUNION
Introit: "This joyful Eastertide" (Dutch Carol)
The Gallery Choir
Anthem: "Praise your God, ye righteous" (Viadana)—The Chancel Choir
7:00 p.m.—THE EASTER VESPERS AND SEMINAR: "ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS"
Solo: "I know that my Redeemer liveth" (Handel)—Miss Barbara G. Rogers

"THANKS BE TO GOD, WHICH GIVETH US THE VICTORY THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST"

St. Peter's Cathedral

Rochford Square
Anglican Church of Canada

The Ven. Archdeacon J. R. Davies, M.A. Rector
The Reverend Canon E. M. Maine, M.A., D.D.
Honorary Assistant Priest
Miss Suzanne Brenton, Lic. Mus., Organist
Mrs. B. W. Patterson, Choir Director

Services for Good Friday and Easter Day
March 27—Good Friday

10:00 a.m.—Mattins and Litany
11:00 a.m.—Reproaches, Ante-Communion and sermon
3:00 p.m.—Devotions on the Passion
5:00 p.m.—Children's Service
7:00 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon
March 29—Easter Day
7:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist
8:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m.—Mattins
11:00 a.m.—Procession and Choral Eucharist and Sermon (11 infants)
3.00 p.m.—Children's Service (bring Lent boxes)
7:00 p.m.—Evensong, Procession and Solemn Te Deum

Visitors are most welcome at all services.