

Early on the first day of the week

Today we celebrate the highpoint of the Christian calendar, Easter.

Mary Magdalen **the first witness** to the Resurrection, she is **the first** to bring this Good News to others, **the first preacher** of the Resurrection.

'It was still dark ...'when Mary went to the tomb

.....but it was also the 'first day of the week',a new beginning, like the first warm day of Spring.

We can all recall situations in our lives which seemed so dark, days **so recently** when we felt that there was no light at the end of the tunnel.

But the Easter story shows us that transformation is always possible. There is a new way.....

There comes a point during dark times that we realisesomething has changed,

- things are different.....
- the stone has been rolled away.

Let the linen wrappings in this gospel text today represent

- all that keeps us from being free;
- all that keeps us captive, emotionally, physically, spiritually, in our broken relationships and struggling communities.

As we continue to deal with the effects of the COVID-19, many people are longing for this situation to ease, to lift.

The Easter Gospel shows us that even the most difficult of situations **can** bring transformation.

A question we can ask today, is

- Where have we seen the Risen Christ during this pandemic?

.....In the frontline workers, the doctors, the nurses, the carers, the delivery people, the shop assistants, the paramedics, in good neighbours and good friends.

- Where are we being called to share Easter joy with others?

➤ **To whom will you be an “Alleluia”**

‘Jesus you are with us. Keep us ever mindful of how you are a part of our lives in a deep and profound way. Surprise us with a touch of your love in places where we never thought that we would find you.’
(Joyce Rupp)

Christ is Risen, He is Risen indeed!