

July 22, 2008
Tuesday of the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time
Memorial of St. Mary Magdalene

Readings of the day may be found on the following link:

<http://www.nccbuscc.org/nab>

Micah 7:14-15, 18-20

Psalms 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8

John 20:1-2, 11-18

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and then reported what he told her.

In the midst of a gospel story that contains so many places for reflection, I am drawn to the hope that I find in Mary's words. I am aware of the dark places in our world today. War is present in many countries of our world. Far too many children go hungry and homeless. In our country alone, medical care is beyond the reach of those without financial resources and/or insurance. Education, the way out of so many dead end situations, is unavailable to many who need it the most. I find hope in the words of Mary: "I have seen the Lord." If we see the risen Christ among us then maybe, just maybe, we will be moved to act as Jesus acted and heal the society we live in of the ills that perpetuate injustice, poverty, and personal powerlessness. If we were like Mary and took the news of the risen Christ to the world, what would we say about what Jesus has told us?

We must not seek the child Jesus in the pretty figures of our Christmas cribs. We must seek him among the undernourished children who have gone to bed at night with nothing to eat, among the poor newsboys who will sleep covered with newspapers in doorways.

~Archbishop Oscar Romero, December 24, 1979