# Where's Your Chair?

**Easter Tuesday** 



Your loving kindness is better than life itself and so my lips shall praise you.

I will bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.

Psalm 63:4-5

## **Praising:**

Easter triumph, Easter joy, sin alone can this destroy; from sin's power do thou set free souls new-born, O Lord, in thee. Hymns of glory and of praise, risen Lord, to thee we raise; holy Father, praise to thee, with the Spirit, ever be.

# Reading:

John 20:11-18 Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene

If killing Jesus wasn't enough, now they have taken his body away. Just when Mary thought it couldn't get any worse. Violating his grave, after all they've already done – these are the lowest of the low. But what is it that brings Mary to the grave so early on this first day of the week? Whatever

connection Jesus had made with that rag-tag collection of fishermen, revolutionaries, taxcollectors and other 'ne'r-dowells', until things turned nasty in Jerusalem all they wanted was Christ's company. It looks like Mary in particular had found the Lord's mix of acceptance and love to be everything that she'd always been searching for. Nothing else explains her anguish; and nothing else explains why, once she recognises Jesus, he ends up having to tell her to let go of him!

### Listening:

# **Praying:**

We hold before God all who mourn

- those broken and bereft after a lifetime of love, trust and friendship
- those alone and anxious for whom the solitude and silence are unbearable
- those facing loss without the comfort and consolation of hope, faith and heaven

Father: send me to those devastated by death. May I speak Christ's words of recognition and reassurance. May they know his power to succour, heal and strengthen. Amen

### **Doing:**