Catholic Identity Patch Program

WOMEN IN SCRIPTURE

Mary Magdalene

Mary Magdalene is one of the most important women in the New Testament. Mary was from the town of Magdala. She followed Jesus throughout his ministry because he cured her from seven evil demons (see Mark 16:9,) so she was grateful and wanted to be near him. She helped Jesus and the apostles when they traveled, preaching the good news.

When everyone deserted Jesus near the end of his life on earth, Mary remained loyal. Mary was present at the crucifixion of Jesus along with Mary "his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas," (John 19:25).

Mary Magdalene was the first person to see the risen Christ and ran back to tell the apostles. We celebrate her feast day on July 22.


Helping Others

Mary Magdalene and other women helped to support the apostles in their ministry. Find out the different ministries that your parish supports and see if you can volunteer.

Create Your Own Activity

Learn more about Mary Magdalene and create your own activity.
For All
Using the Bible, read the story in Luke 24:1-12 and try to answer the following questions:
- How would you have reacted if you had seen Jesus alive after he was crucified?
- Whom would you have told?
- Whom would you tell about Jesus?
- Share what you learn with someone else.

For Older Youth
Mary Magdalene had courage, but her image has been distorted. She has been wrongly identified as a reformed prostitute in Luke’s Gospel.
- Have you ever felt like you were with people that had the wrong image of you?
- How have you risen above it, such as Mary Magdalene?
- Discuss with someone.

Role of Women
In the time of Jesus, most women were not leaders. Mary Magdalene became a leader among the women who helped Jesus.
- Who are women leaders that you recognize and admire today?
- Find pictures of them in magazines, then cut and paste them to sheets of paper. Underneath each picture, write about how they have helped others.

Why Is It?
A symbol associated with Mary Magdalene is the egg. Why do you think this symbol was chosen to represent Mary Magdalene.