



Dear Sisters & Friends,

**IMAGINE!**

You have just witnessed the One you loved so deeply be taken prisoner, tortured, reviled and mocked and finally put to death in the cruelest of ways. The One in whom you have placed your hope, whose compassionate love and non-judgement enabled you to begin your life anew is, apparently, no more.

**IMAGINE!**

The dismay, the bewilderment, the confusion, and the questions aroused in you. Your life has seemingly become meaningless because the One in whom you had placed your hope, the One whose presence gave you so much strength has died. Even though deeply bewildered and disoriented you, nevertheless, invite a few of your faithful women friends to accompany you to the place where the One you loved so deeply was laid to rest.

**IMAGINE!**

How terrified you were when you arrived to find *“the stone rolled away from the tomb”* and when you went in *“did not find the body”*. (Lk 24:2)

**IMAGINE!**

The anger, the fear, and the consternation you experience. You immediately assume ‘someone’, has removed the body and so, you and your friends begin to weep. While weeping you hear, *“Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?”* (Jn 20: 15) *“Why do you look for the living among the dead? The One you seek is not here but has risen.”* (Lk 24:6) Then you hear your name – MARY! Instantly, you recognize and know Jesus, the One you love so deeply. You ask, *how can this be? What wonder is this that after 3 days you are here, speaking with me?*

**IMAGINE!**

The amazement, the wonder, the great joy as you recognize Jesus, the Christ, source of so much hope standing before you. The Beloved One! How can this be? And you remember Jesus’ words, how on the third day he would rise again.

Like Mary we too, are invited into Mystery – to exult over the majesty of existence inviting us to be alive with the Fire of Divine Energy at the heart of the Cosmos. We realize that as the psalmist once wrote, “*the gift of life fades too soon away*” (Ps.39). We who believe in Christ Jesus believe that though we die we shall live. (Jn 11:25) And so, the eternal question, *what is next? What awaits us as we cross over the final threshold of this life?* Today, we are invited into MYSTERY, to stand in AWE and WONDER. MYSTERY - which we do not seek to UNRAVEL. Rather, we honour it by letting it be that way forever. MYSTERY - calling us to journey into the Heart of Love.

***MAY WE ALL BE GIFTED WITH AWE AND WONDER AS WE CELEBRATE THIS  
MOST HOLY of SEASONS!***

***Pauline Maheux for the Leadership Circle***

*Mysteries, Yes*

*Truly, we live with mysteries too marvelous  
to be understood.*

*How grass can be nourishing in the  
mouths of the lambs.*

*How rivers and stones are forever  
in allegiance with gravity  
while we ourselves dream of rising.*

*How two hands touch and the bonds  
will never be broken.*

*How people come, from delight or the  
scars of damage,  
to the comfort of a poem.*

*Let me keep my distance, always, from those  
who think they have the answers.*

*Let me keep company always with those who say  
“Look!” and laugh in astonishment,  
and bow their heads*

*~Mary Oliver~*