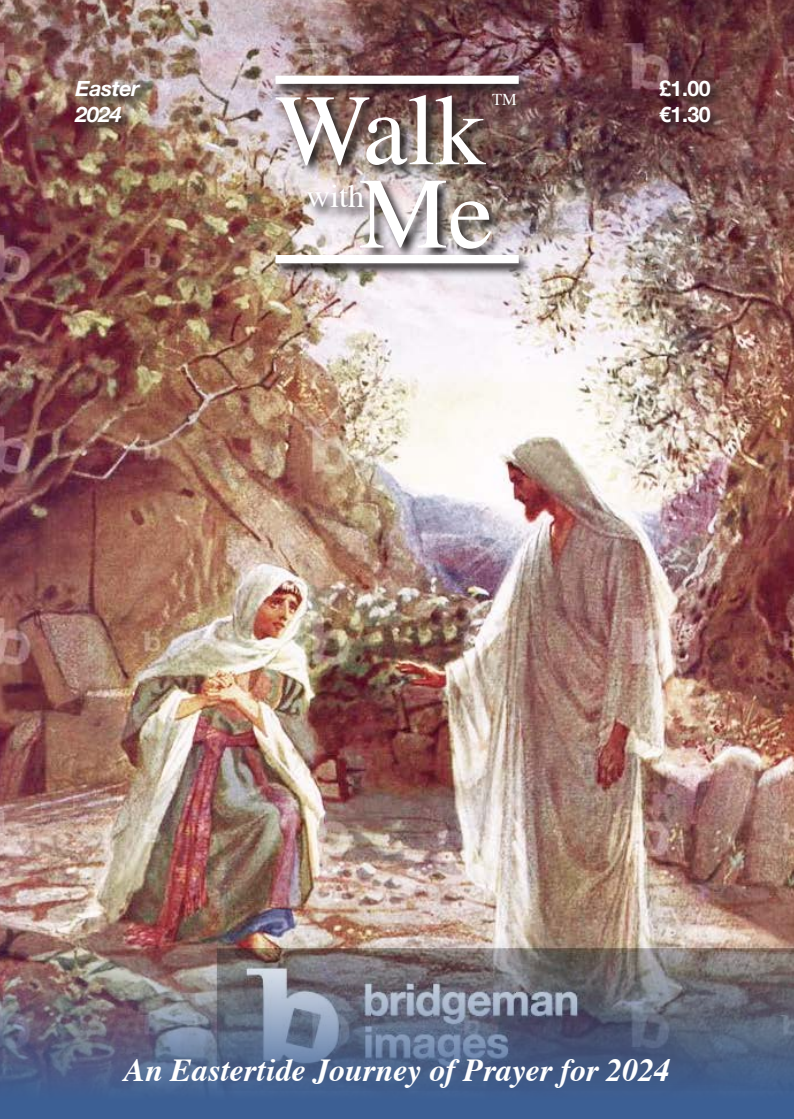


Easter
2024

WalkTM with Me

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An Eastertide Journey of Prayer for 2024

Walk with Me Prayer

Lord God,
our light and our salvation,
we praise you for your gifts
of life and faith.

We thank you for the desire
that you have planted in our hearts,
our yearning to see your face.

Help us to meet you in prayer,
to walk in your ways,
and to speak to others of our joy
and consolation in your presence.

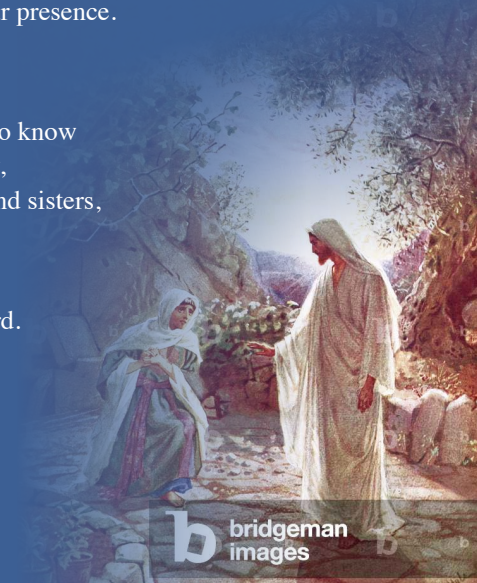
Give us faithfulness
in this present life
so that we may come to know
and praise your beauty,
with all our brothers and sisters,
in the life to come.

We make this prayer
through Christ our Lord.

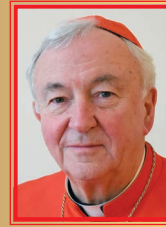
Amen.

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W elcome to this Eastertide
edition of *Walk with Me*,
in which we continue our
meditation on prayer in the Christian life.

Our focus during Lent was the perfect
prayer, the *Our Father*. Our focus during
Eastertide is our call to be prayerful Pilgrims of Hope.
Eastertide invites us to renew our relationship with the
Holy Spirit, our greatest gift, the Counsellor, the Lord and
the giver of life.

Just as no one can say ‘Jesus is Lord’ without the Holy
Spirit, so too no one can pray ‘For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours, now and forever’ without the
Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit teaches us to fix our hope on God and pray
as the Psalmist prayed: ‘I waited patiently for the Lord;
and he inclined to me and heard my cry’ (Psalm 40:1).
And as St Paul prayed, ‘May the God of hope fill you with
all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the
Holy Spirit you may abound in hope’ (Romans 15:13).

The Holy Spirit helps us to believe and to celebrate and
live our faith in a vital and personal relationship with the
living God. This relationship has love as its source and is
expressed in prayer.

3

How beautifully the Curé d'Ars puts this: 'I love you, O my God, and my only desire is to love you until the last breath of my life. I love you, O my infinitely lovable God, and I would rather die loving you, than live without loving you. I love you, Lord, and the only grace I ask is to love you eternally.... My God, if my tongue cannot say in every moment that I love you, I want my heart to repeat it to you as often as I draw breath'.

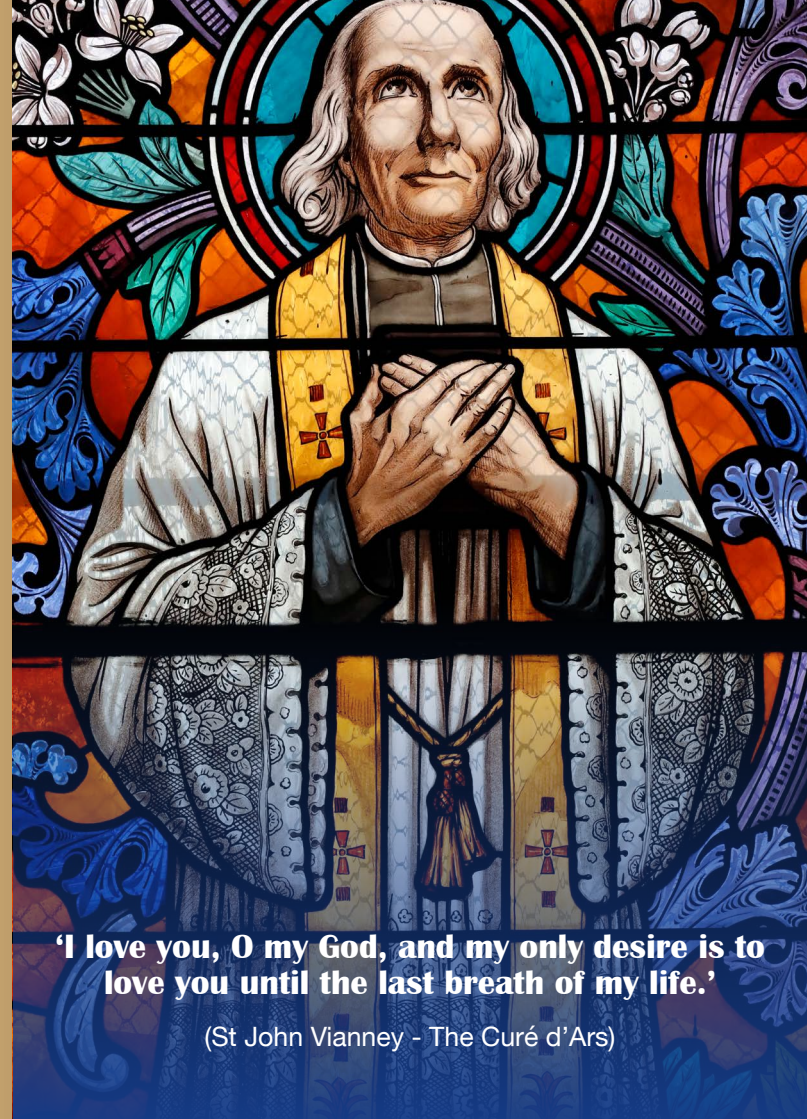
In this edition of *Walk With Me* the Gospel reading for each Sunday is the gateway into further contemplation; each week is an invitation to deepen our prayer and be renewed in faith by the Holy Spirit.

Prayer is a big adventure in which we discover the depths of God's love and grow in faith and hope. And hope does not disappoint because God's love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

And so we dare to make our Eastertide prayer: 'Christ is Risen indeed', 'Alleluia!' and 'Come, Holy Spirit, Come.'

+ Vincent

✠ Cardinal Vincent Nichols
Archbishop of Westminster



'I love you, O my God, and my only desire is to love you until the last breath of my life.'

(St John Vianney - The Curé d'Ars)

Easter Joy and Prayer

'He is Risen!'

(Mark 16:1-8)



Week 1

'Christ is Risen indeed. Alleluia!

This ancient refrain echoes the greeting of the angel: 'He is not here; for he has risen, as he said' (Matthew 28:6).

The Scriptures foresaw Jesus' resurrection. 'For love is strong as death, passion fierce as the grave.' (Songs of Songs 8:6).

In prayer we receive many of the blessings of faith: joy, rejoicing and delight in the Lord. Again, we say, rejoice and delight in the Lord!

'For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on earth; the time of the singing of birds is come and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land' (Song of Songs 2:11-12).

Easter Sunday (Solemnity)

*I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.
(Entrance Antiphon)*

Mark 16:1-8

'He is Risen!'

The final doxology, 'For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever' is the joyful prayer of our hearts, for we are the Easter People. Through his resurrection Jesus restores the glory of the Father's hallowed name and creates within us the desire to pray for the coming of his kingdom and for the Father's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven. Jesus is Lord, he is Victor; he wears the Crown. This is the faith by which we live, not by sight. We are blessed because while we do not see yet we believe. Open wide your eyes of faith and let the light of the resurrection radiate and illuminate your life and fill you with joy.

Death is swallowed up in victory, the new life shines forth. The kingdom, the power and the glory is the Father's, now and forever!

Our Father..., Ten Hail Marys ..., Glory be...

Today my prayer is for:

.....

Sunday

31st

March

*Easter Joy and Prayer
'He is Risen!'*