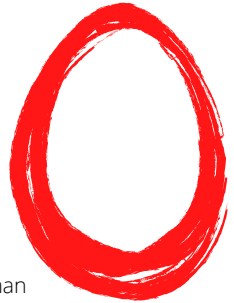


Calling Out for **Equality**: The Feast of St. Mary Magdalene

St. Mary Magdalene was one of Jesus' closest followers and the first to see the risen Christ in the garden next to his tomb. His command to "go and tell" the disciples the news of the Resurrection makes her the first person commissioned by Jesus to proclaim the Gospel. She is considered an **Apostle to the Apostles**, and her feast day is celebrated globally on July 22nd.



Tradition has it that Mary Magdalene went to the Roman emperor to proclaim the Resurrection of Jesus and brought an egg, a symbol of rebirth. The emperor told her that it was no more possible that Jesus had risen from the dead than it was possible for the white egg in her hand to be red. But immediately, the egg in her hand turned red - **a sign from God that the "impossible" had happened.**

In honor of Mary Magdalene, we lift up the symbol of the red egg, to represent the beauty of the calls from God the institutional church has called "impossible," and dismissed because of a persons' gender or sexuality.

United by her prophetic ministry and the symbol of the red egg, we pray in solidarity with Catholics everywhere:

**Loving Spirit who Expands the Possible, we thank you
for the vibrant ministry of people of all genders who
answer your call to priesthood. Like Mary Magdalene,
give us the courage born of love to proclaim the Gospel
and transform your Church.**



SAINT MARY

MAGDALENE