

# CDM Kampung-ku Connection

Theme: See God's Mercy: Mercy revealed

April 2022

**O** *pening prayer:* Our Father in heaven, we thank you for gathering all of us today. We also want to thank you for giving us your Son, Jesus to walk on this earth, to speak His word and share His story with us. Today, we humbly ask of you Father, to be with us as we sit and share our hearts on the goodness of your son Jesus in our lives. May we rise to the call of being Your people who are rooted in your Word. Father, we ask forgiveness for the times we did not speak of You and glorify you in our lives. So Father in Jesus' Name, we ask for Your tender mercy to sweep over us and rejuvenate us with your Spirit once again. There is no other name but the name of Jesus, whom we adore and glorify as one Church. Come Holy Spirit, touch us today in an extraordinary way. Fill us once again and enkindle in us the fire of your love in Jesus' name. Give us the grace to share our stories testifying your Mercy in our lives as one Family... One Church. In Jesus' mighty name we pray, **Amen.**

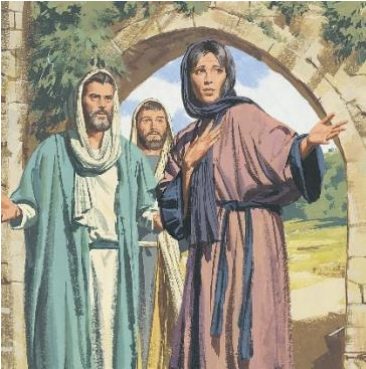
"I am giving you three ways of exercising mercy toward your neighbor: the first - by deed, the second - by word, the third - by prayer. In these three degrees is contained the fullness of mercy, and it is an unquestionable proof of love for me."  
- Jesus' words to Saint Faustina



# Easter Story

We love stories, don't we? Hence, we have a real-life story that took place in **John 20:1-18**.

In this story, it was a known fact that no one expected Jesus to rise from the dead. Peter and John ran to the tomb, Mary Magdalene was there as she told him all about it. They walked away amazed & bewildered! Mary sees Jesus in the garden and assumes He is a gardener. And He finally reveals Himself to her.



Jesus says, "Go and tell my brothers I am going to my father and your Father, to my God and your God." She gets up & races to the disciples and says, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her."

Now back to 2022, ask yourself this one question : **Why did Jesus appear to Mary Mag'dalene?** Mary was important to Jesus & He trusted her. Jesus knew that Mary will know what to do with this information. Jesus trusted her with this news because she will faithfully bring this news to disciples, who then brought it into the world.

There are 2 things that we need to know at this Easter ;

- 1) *Just like Mary Mag'dalene, we are important to Jesus*
- 2) *Jesus trusts us with His Story*

Brothers & sisters, Jesus has proven to us repeatedly that He is a God who came looking for us, who came and reached out to us so that we may encounter Him in our daily walk in this world today. There are some of us who are still in the dark of who this Jesus is. Some of us here have not encountered the Jesus of Mary Mag'delene.

The question that we should consider asking ourselves:

- a) *Are we ready to tell His story to all those we meet every day?*
- b) *Are we ready to share His love story to someone who may not know who Jesus is in the first place?*
- c) *Are we ready to tell the story as it is to our children?*

## Let's ponder & discuss:

What are the various challenges or obstacles that hinders or stops you from sharing a mercy story with a friend or relative?

Now that we have shared our various obstacles & hindrances that stops us from sharing our story, let us look on how we are able to rise above these obstacles the godly way.

Today, the Lord is reminding each one of us, that we are important to Him. Jesus trusts us with His stories. God has conquered the grave for us. We, too, have stories of our own. Our experiences with Jesus, are stories that we must share to someone who does not know Jesus. There are so many out there who do not even know that they need Jesus to get through life! It's so sad, right?

**This Easter, because we believe in him, he comes to us first as well, and he tells us to go spread the Good News to the rest of the world**

## We are on a Mission-Story

Today, we are invited to share our mercy stories with one another, Christians or non-Christian family and friends. These stories stem from 2 things:

- i) Relationship with God
- ii) Relationship with Your community

Jesus has risen from the dead and He has entrusted this information to us so that we can do something with that information. God believes that His story will transform your heart by the Holy Spirit. God has been on a mission from the first day of creation till today. Our lives have become a mission field where His Mercy story becomes alive! Our lives tell a story to anyone who encounters us.

## How do I share a Mercy Story?



### 1. SHARE ONE OF MY FAVOURITE BIBLE STORIES

Every week we listen to the Gospel proclaimed by the priest. We listen to his sermons attentively. Then we walk out of the church, we go for breakfast with friends & family. What better time to share an excerpt from the Gospel or the sermon and talk about it? **Share your experience** on how you felt when the Gospel was being proclaimed. Allow the Spirit to excite you!



### 2. SHARE A PERSONAL TESTIMONY OF GOD'S MERCY IN MY LIFE

We pray all the time. When we are in need, we pray when are in pain or sick, etc. After praying so much, we get well or we received an answer that we have been waiting for! So how did this miracle come about? It cannot be a co-incidence because you had done something right: **YOU PRAYED**. So, truth is, your prayer has been answered. Now, you have **ONE** story in your hands. Tell it to whoever you meet!



### 3. LIVE MY LIFE ROOTED IN JESUS

We prayed and our prayers were answered. Now, we are called to be rooted in the Lord & His Word. When we are rooted in His Word, we will notice changes in the way we talk to one another. Even the way we look at Jesus & His work in our lives, changes. Then, God will allow someone to notice Him in you and that he or she exclaims, *“I want what you have.”* And you will reply, *“I have Jesus only. Take Him!”* Your life is on its way to become a Mission-Story.

### Conclusion

Since Easter is around the corner, let's continue to remain in Jesus. If we are in tune with Jesus and His Word, we will encounter Him in our daily walk. On some days our stories could be huge, and, on some days, it is small but still, it is yours and my story. We need to be rooted in the Lord, be empowered by the Holy Spirit, to remain in Jesus, to be “plugged in” to Jesus so that we are not limited to love Jesus and His story in our lives.

We have only **ONE LIFETIME** to keep running to the tomb where people are waiting for someone to show them the path to Jesus. We are here, on this earth to encounter Him and **SHARE** these encounters and stories to the people who have been entrusted to us. Jesus trusts us to bring His Mercy stories to His people. ***Are you ready share a Mercy Story with someone today?***



***Quote from St Francis of Assisi***

***“It is no use walking somewhere to preach unless our walking is our preaching!”***

### **Share Your Heart....**

**Take time to share a mercy story.** *It can a long or a short one & it does not matter. Every story has its purpose. Remember: You are important to Jesus, and He has trusted you with His story. This will be the best time to share your story. We welcome testimonies at [cdmpgstory@gmail.com](mailto:cdmpgstory@gmail.com)*



**Losing Prayer:** Heavenly Father, we thank you for tonight and the opportunity to share a mercy story of your goodness in our lives. We ask of you, Lord, that you will continue to walk with us and empower us through the power of the Holy Spirit. Father, in these difficult times, we pray, that we will find ways to be rooted in You & Your Word and to be sensitive to your promptings in bringing Jesus, your Son, to all those who are in need and even to those who do not know Him. May our stories be a divine encounter with Jesus, to whoever you lead us to share. May our stories glorify You Father, Jesus our saviour and God the Holy Spirit who reigns in us. We make this prayer in Jesus' precious name. Amen.

**Closing Hymn: Blessed Assurance**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rDeiy9-t2GE>

<p>1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.</p> <p><i>Refrain:</i> This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.</p> <p>2. Perfect submission, perfect delight, Visions of rapture now burst on my sight; Angels descending bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.</p> <p><i>Refrain:</i> This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.</p>	<p>3. Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest, Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.</p> <p><i>Refrain:</i> This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.</p>
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