

A Reflection on Resurrection by Mairi Clunas

Each Sunday, in the Creed, we profess our faith in the bodily resurrection of Jesus. Then, as a consequence of this, a little later we affirm our hope in the resurrection of our own mortal bodies too. For the human person is a unity of body and spirit.

I wonder, have you ever tried to imagine what resurrection might feel like? Recently, I had an experience which led me to reflect on the wonder and mystery of bodily resurrection.

While walking along a pavement – on my way to Mass – I suddenly tripped on a yellow board left at the edge of the kerb by some roadmen. There I was, lying flat on my back by the side of the road, completely unable to rise by my own efforts ... Then, a young man, who was passing by at the time, lifted me on to my feet. It really felt like being resurrected.

At times, we may be inclined to think that Jesus effected his own resurrection. But, in reality, it was a work of the Spirit of God - as it will be for us too.

*'If the Spirit of who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you.
He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead
will give life to your mortal bodies too.,
for the sake of the Spirit who dwells in you'
Romans 8*

Fr Ronald Rolheiser OMI on Devotion to Our Lady

" Among devotions, the ones to Mary, the Mother of Jesus, have had the privileged place, especially among the poor. In Marian devotions, the faith takes on a special relationship to the poor. In a manner of speaking, Marian devotions are the mysticism of the poor. In relating to her, countless people, without the benefit of professional training in theology or liturgy have wonderfully appropriated to themselves deep, essential truths about God's person, presence, compassion, and providence. They know and taste God's love, through their relationship to Mary.

*Many years ago, when I was an 18 year-old novice, a very pious old priest gave us a talk. He shared how a young man had come to him complaining that he'd lost his faith. The old priest had simply told him: "You've lost your faith because you've lost your mother, Mary." Funny how among the hundreds of hours of talks and conferences that I heard during my novitiate year, that pious, overly-simplistic, theologically-impoverished comment is about the only thing I still **remember**."*