

Today the second Sunday after the Feast of Holy Pascha, we celebrate the Holy Myrrh-Bearing Women. In the Gospel reading, Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8, we hear how these women bought spices, so that they can go and anoint the body of Jesus Christ. When they went to the tomb on Sunday, they saw that the stone was rolled back and when they entered an angel sat there waiting. He told them that Jesus of Nazareth had risen from the dead, and to go and tell the disciples.

Dearest ones, these myrrh-bearing women did not lose faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ even through His crucifixion and entombment. So devoted and with great devotion to Him, they did not fear the Jewish Rulers and came to the tomb bearing the myrrh-oils to anoint His body. These women were the Most Holy Theotokos, Mary Magdalene, Mary, the wife of Clopas; Joanna, wife of Chouza; Salome, the mother of the sons of Zebedee, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus; and Susanna with other names of myrrh-bearers present kept silent in Scripture.

They went to the tomb, and the tomb was empty.

The angel proclaimed to them that Christ had risen from the dead. This is the Good News, dearest ones!

The tomb was empty; Christ had Risen from the dead granting great mercy to the world!

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!