

THE WITNESSES TO THE RESURRECTION



The Medallion at the top shows Jesus ascending into heaven. Each of the figures below was a witness to the risen Christ.

The Ascension of the Lord. Jesus with the disciples just before the ascension which is recounted twice in the scripture (Lk. 24:50-53) and (Acts 1:6-10). Luke says it occurred on a mountain near Bethany (the town of Martha, Mary and Lazarus) which is just outside Jerusalem.

Peter in Galilee saw Jesus on the beach by the shore of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus told the disciples where to cast their nets and the nets overflowed with fish (John 21:6). Peter who was “lightly clothed” swam ashore to greet Jesus (John 21:7). Peter’s feast day is June 29.

Appearance to Thomas, the doubter. Thomas said he would not believe until he could put his hand into the side of Jesus. He is seen touching Jesus (John 20:24-28).

Disciples on the Road to Emmaus encountered Jesus on the day of the resurrection (Luke 24:13-35). In the window a pair of disciples is shown walking with Jesus toward the town of Emmaus, shown in the distance. Scripture says there were two disciples, one of whom was named Cleopas. The only other place a similar name appears is in John’s gospel (John 19:25). There John says the wife of Cleopas was standing at the foot of the cross with Mary the mother of Jesus. Therefore, we have depicted these two disciples as husband and wife. Luke also records that they did not recognize Jesus until He broke the bread with them that evening. Then they ran back to Jerusalem and told the other disciples how they had recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread (Lk. 24:35).

Mary Magdalene, the devoted follower of Jesus is shown in the garden where she encountered Jesus. In her tears and sorrow, she thought he was the gardener. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” (John 20:13).