

April 21 to 27

Deaconess Sisterhood Bethesda e. V.

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**“I was dead, but look! Now I am alive forever and always. I have the keys of Death and the Grave.”**  
(Revelations 1:18)

## Easter outlook

Some of us were visiting a sisterhood in France where we heard about an unusual incident that had happened. They had to be evacuated from the building because a dreadful storm was threatening to cause serious damage. The fire brigade came. All the sisters were to be brought to a safe building. They were given calm, firm instructions about how they should behave. One firefighter then set off in the lead with the sisters following him across the extensive grounds (no matter how - some were still in their night-gowns!). Another firefighter brought up the rear, making sure that no-one was lost. Everything was fine.

That's just how I imagine Jesus when it's a case of life and death. He has the necessary key to lock away all the destructive influences. He knows the path to life. He wants

to rescue those who follow him (preferably right now, no matter how!). And he brings up the rear to make sure that no-one is lost. He knows what he is doing.

What an outlook just now at Easter! Jesus is the first and the last. He knows the paths and holds the crucial keys. Everything will be fine. Jesus says “Do not be afraid!”

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Translation: Jacqueline Rohmann

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## I GIVE THANKS

- for the possibility that God gives us deaconesses to pray together every day, and for the faithfulness of the praying sisters.
- for the trust that people place in us when they turn to us in times of need.
- for being able to work together with church communities and the Diaconal Work Wuppertal in supporting asylum seekers.

## I Pray

- that the Gospel may reach all those who attend our morning prayers or listen to them in the senior citizens' centre.
- that our active sisters may be blessed in their work providing nursing care for the elderly at home and with the Blue Cross.
- that we may find some urgently needed new volunteers to work in our second hand shop.

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## Deaconess Sisterhood Bethesda e. V.

As deaconesses, we see it as God's kind directive to offer our lives in his service, in gratitude to his love. We do this by living in community, unmarried, with a common purse and being available for diaconal work. Prayer and work are at the centre of our daily lives. There is also space to offer support for those in need. We would be happy to supply information about our lives and faith. Spending time with us is also possible.

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