

## HOLY WOMEN COMPANIONS: Mary Magdalene and Dorothy Stang, SNDdeN

### *Proclaimers of God's Word*



#### **Mary Magdalene – First Century**

A Teacher and Visionary, Mary of Magdala, popularly known as Mary Magdalene is Divine Feminine energy incarnate. She is the 13th and closest disciple of Jesus of Nazareth, teaching alongside him as a visionary and teacher in her own right. She is known as “an apostle of the apostles.” In ancient Aramaic, Mary means “she who illuminates.” She is the proclaimer of the Word who first revealed to the Apostles that Jesus had risen.

*“Jesus said to her, Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Jesus said to her, “Mary! Go and tell the others.” She went and announced, “I have seen the Lord.” John 20*

**Reflection Questions:** What about my life serves as a proclamation of God’s word? Who are what “illuminates” my life, especially in times of struggle and uncertainty?

#### **Sister Dorothy Stang – 1931-2005**



An American born nun, Dorothy spent 40 years in the Amazon of Brazil working for the rights of landless farmers. She had come to recognize the connection between defending the rights of those who are poor and protecting the ecological balance of the rain forest itself. Those who had violated the land and the people on it hired gunmen who approached her and asked if she carried any weapon. In reply she produced her Bible and began to read, “Blessed are the peacemakers...” They shot and killed her.

*“I light a candle and look at Jesus on the cross and ask for the strength to carry the suffering of the people. Don’t worry about my safety. The safety of the people is what is important.” D.S.*

**Reflection Questions:** How might I need to be the voice for the voiceless at this time in history? What is “the Word” that I would hope to speak?

#### **Prayer:**

Loving God, by your Word, all things came to be. Jesus, your word and life resonates in us today. May we have the courage to speak your word, BE your word in our hurting and fragmented world. May we never lose heart in preaching the message the world is longing to hear, to see, to be. May it be so! AMEN!

(credits: Mary Magdalene – Claudia Olivos)

