

# Magdalene Gathering February 22, 2026

Presented by the Magdalene Community  
Houston, Texas  
[Ourmarymagdalene.com](http://Ourmarymagdalene.com)



# WELCOME

Let us take a few moments to go within,  
to calm our minds and open our hearts.

# OPENING DIALOGUE

May you be safe.

May you be well.

May you be happy

May all beings, everywhere,  
live in peace.

#WalkForPeace

#AlokathePeaceDog

# A Reading from Gospel of Mary

**When the Blessed One said these things, he greeted them all and said Peace be with you.**

**Acquire my peace.**

**Be careful not to let anyone mislead you by saying Look over here or Look over there. Because the Son of Humanity exists within you! Follow him! Those who seek him will find him.**

**Go then and preach the gospel about the kingdom. Don't lay down any rules beyond what I've given you, nor make a law like the lawgiver, lest you be bound by it.**

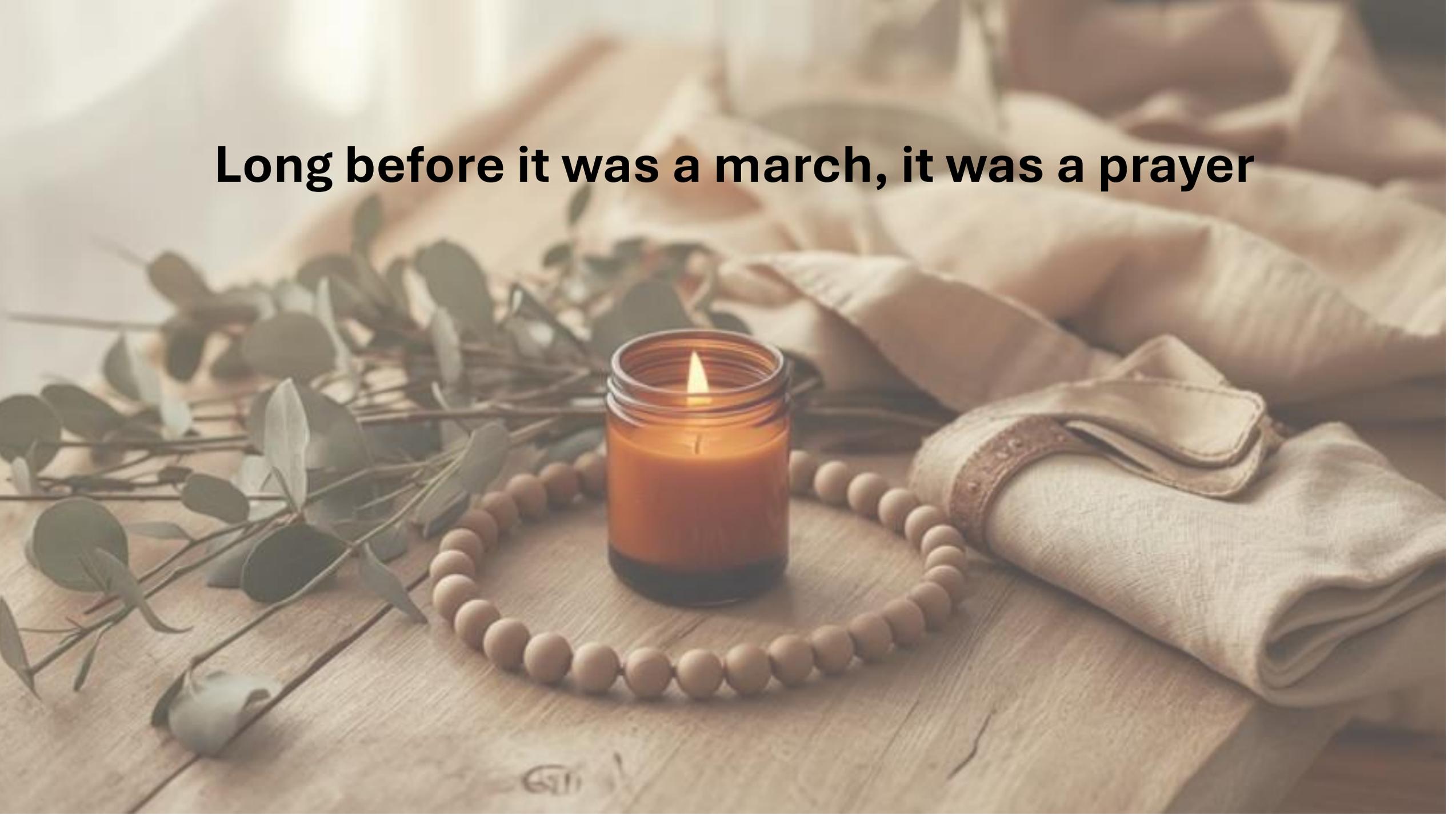
**When he said these things, he left.**

# Peace

*“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”*

*John 14:27*

**Long before it was a march, it was a prayer**





In October 2025, 19 Buddhist monks from the Huong Dao Vipassana Bhavana Center in Fort Worth, Texas, began walking over 2300 miles to Washington, D.C., to promote world peace. This 108-day journey's purpose was to spread the message of peace, hope, and unity – a “Spiritual Offering”.

Soon after the walk began, millions followed the journey online, including thousands greeting them along the way.

Lesser-known facts:  
Silence is the message, monk-led  
peace walks are completely silent.

Walking as a “living prayer..”  
Walking isn’t exercise-it is  
considered a form of prayer without  
words.

Every step is to be taken with the  
awareness: “I have arrived. I am  
home.”

They walk extremely slow. The pace  
is extremely slow. The idea is to  
match the rhythm of the breath, not  
the clock.

The “half-smile” Monks are taught to  
keep a soft half-smile while walking.  
It relaxes the nervous system and  
signals gentleness rather than  
resistance.



The 108 day journey symbolizes the number 108, which is  
considered sacred in Buddhism, Hinduism and Jainism,  
representing completeness and wholeness.



Long before modern peace marches, walking itself was sacred.

Early Buddhist monks practiced walking meditation in India around the 5<sup>th</sup> century BCE.

Christian pilgrims walked to holy sites as acts of repentance and prayer. Walking already connected to inner peace.



### **Mahatma Gandhi – 1930**

Gandhi's Salt March in India was one of the first globally recognized nonviolent protest walks. It wasn't called a "Walk for Peace." but it demonstrated how walking could become a spiritual and political act of nonviolence.



**Mildred Lisette Norman**, an American spiritual teacher, mystic, pacifist, vegetarian activist and peace activist. In 1952, she became the first woman to walk the entire length of the Appalachian Trail in one season. Starting on January 1, 1953, in California she adopted the name :Peace Pilgrim: and walked across the United States for 28 years, speaking with others about peace. She was on her seventh cross-country journey when she died.



On this day, distance  
disappears.  
Borders disappear.  
Differences disappear.

What remains is one  
shared human intention  
– peace, compassion  
and healing for all  
beings.

When thousands of  
people become still at  
the same moment,  
when thousands of  
minds generate  
lovingkindness  
together...

Something profound  
happens.

It becomes a living force  
– touching unseen  
hearts, softening  
unseen pain, planting  
unseen seeds of hope  
across our world.

Because peace does  
not begin in  
governments.

Peace begins in minds.

Peace begins in hearts.

Peace begins with you.

Reposted from Walk of Peace – A  
Global Moment of Compassion is  
Calling – February 11, 2026



"Grateful to the **teacher** who showed us that peace is lived, not spoken." 🙏



# A Reading from the Gospel of Mary

Then Mary arose, embraced them all, and began to speak to her brothers: “Do not remain in sorrow and doubt, for his Grace will guide you and comfort you.

Indeed, let us praise his greatness, for he has prepared us for this. He is calling upon us to become fully human (Anthropos).”

Then Mary turned their hearts to the Good and they began to discuss the meaning of the Teacher’s words.

# An Invitation

Reflections and Discussion



# Lent Begins: Go Fly a Kite

## *I'm not in the mood for ashes*

[DIANA BUTLER BASS](#)

SUBSTACK- FEB 18, 2026

EXCERPTS FROM PODCAST:

- But I don't need to be reminded that I'm going to die someday. I don't really need to be told to do a whole lot of repentance. I look around and **I'm not the problem, frankly.**
- I know that the church won't like to hear me say that, but that's the truth. **I'm not the problem.** The problem is the systems and structures in which we live have given rise to horrible sin and evil.
- **I'm part of the solution.** I'm part of the love that is coming forth from the heart of my own faith and saying no to the evil.

<https://dianabutlerbas.substack.com/p/lent-begins-go-fly-a-kite>



Announcements

and

Prayer Requests



# Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the nations of the earth, for the well-being of all people, and for those in authority.

God of compassion, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace.

Guide with your wisdom those who govern the nations of the earth, that justice and peace may increase, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love.

Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Book of Common Prayer



# This will be my Peaceful Day

May I be free from resentment and conflict

May I be free from physical suffering.

May I be free from mental suffering.

May I be free from danger.

May my body and mind be at peace.

2/11/2026 public guided meditation  
Led by Venerable BhikkhuPannakara

# Closing Prayer

**Mary Magdalene,  
Breathe your spirit into mine  
Mingle our hearts together  
Share with me the joys and sorrows  
Of your great compassion  
Guide me, Shape me, Heal Me  
That I might give my voice  
To your spirit in this world,  
In this body, in this lifetime.  
May it be so.**

A stone Buddha statue in a meditative pose, set against a background of warm, bokeh lights. The statue is the central focus, shown in profile, sitting in a meditative posture. The background is a soft, out-of-focus scene with warm, golden light and several circular bokeh spots, suggesting an indoor setting with ambient lighting. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

**Our next Gathering  
March 29, 2026**

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