

In the book, GOD STORIES: Inspiring Encounters with the Divine, Kathy Cairns shares this story:

“It was the morning of my son’s wedding. The ceremony was going to be held in the backyard of our home, but the weather was horrible. The rain was coming down so hard that the tent was collapsing as my husband and friends tried to put it up.

I got into the shower and started praying to the Blessed Mother. I prayed for the rain to stop and the sun to come out.

As I stepped out of the shower, my husband asked if I had written something on the fog-covered window on the opposite side of the bathroom. I said, ‘No. What do you mean?’ We both looked at the window at the same time and read the letters. They spelled out F-A-I-T-H!

I knew then that if I put my trust in the Lord, everything would turn out okay. And at that moment a calm came over me.

Everything did turn out okay. We had the wedding inside. It was a beautiful and intimate ceremony, one that our friends and family will always remember.”

In the Gospel today, we have Jesus, the Good Shepherd, relating that the sheep hear His voice.

In the opening story, what Kathy needed to hear from the Good Shepherd was FAITH. That word made a huge difference to her. It transformed her and changed her attitude toward the day ahead.

What do we need to hear at this time, especially in our hearts and souls? What do we need from the Good Shepherd that will set us free? .....that will bring healing to us?....that will give us new life?

The Good Shepherd truly cares about each of us. We matter. We count. We have value. The Good Shepherd has laid down His life for us. The Good Shepherd is interested in us and in our well-being.

As we heard in the Gospel, Jesus states: “My sheep hear my voice.” Do we hear the voice of our Good Shepherd saying: “I love you.” “I am with you.” “Do not be afraid.” “Trust.” “You are precious.” “I accept you.” “Come to me.” “You are forgiven.” “Rest.”

The list is endless because of the abundant love of the Good Shepherd.

This week, ask the Good Shepherd for what it is we truly long to hear. Then wait and listen.

The Good Shepherd will speak..

My sisters and brothers, we can count on this.