

Stations of Easter Meditations Podcast Series Transcript
Fourth Station of Easter (with Gabby Bibeau)

00:08 - Gabby Bibeau

A long and rich tradition of Lent has been making the *Stations of the Cross* with Jesus. Station by station, step by step, we journey deeper into the Paschal mystery of the suffering and death of Jesus. Now as we enter this graced season of Easter, NACMS is offering a weekly reflection on the stations of Easter, supporting our growing relationship with the Risen Jesus.

00:43 - Gabby Bibeau

The Fourth Station of Easter: Listening to the Voice of the Good Shepherd. We adore you, Jesus Christ, the Risen one, for by your holy obedience through the Paschal mystery, you have redeemed the world.

01:18 - Gabby Bibeau

It is a timeless image: the Shepherd with his or her sheep. It's a timeless image, in part, because it is so ancient. Appearing in early Greco-Roman art, the image of a Shepherd with the sheep portrays a comforting presence. The Shepherd is so present, leading, guiding, feeding, binding up the wounded. Even in the midst of several herds, the sheep know the sound of the voice of their Shepherd. The sheep have a deep trust in the Shepherd, a deep trust in this caring presence.

02:09 - Gabby Bibeau

Old Testament prophets used the image of the Shepherd to offer comfort to a people who felt lost, to provide a presence to a people who felt forgotten, to give nourishment to a people whose hearts were drained. The Prophet Ezekiel, speaking to a people in exile, gives words of encouragement, "For God says, 'I myself will search for my sheep. I will seek them out as a Shepherd seeks out his sheep when they are scattered. I will rescue them, bring them home and feed them in good pasture. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak.'"

02:58 - Gabby Bibeau

Psalm 100 brings these words even closer to home, "Know that the Lord is God. It is God who made us. We are God's people, the sheep of his pasture." And, of course, there is Psalm 23, "The Lord is my Shepherd who leads me beside still waters and restores my soul. The Good Shepherd leads me in right paths."

03:36 - Gabby Bibeau

At this fourth station of Easter, we are invited to listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd presented to us in Sunday's Gospel from Chapter 10 of the Gospel according to John. "The sheep hear the voice of the Shepherd. He calls his sheep by name, and they follow because they know his voice. I am the Good Shepherd, the one who lays down his life for his sheep. I know my own, and my own know me, just as the Father knows me, and I know the Father."

04:17 - Gabby Bibeau

At this fourth station of Easter, the Risen Jesus invites us into a sacred presence, into the intimacy that Jesus knows with God the Father, a bond of holy presence, of Holy Spirit. Let the words of the Risen Jesus resonate in your heart, offering healing to your inner wounds, comfort to your sorrows, encouragement to your weakened spirit. “Come to me all you who are burdened, and I will give you rest.”

05:20 - Gabby Bibeau

Thanks for listening to our meditation on the stations of Easter. Check in each Saturday in Easter for a new station. For more resources about the Marianist charism and spirituality, check out our website at www.nacms.org. Thank you for listening.