

Gospel Reflection

Most of the people who knew him thought he was odd and they tended to avoid him for that reason. He was often sullen and abrupt in his manner and preferred to go about his work without help from others. He was happiest when left alone. But whatever people thought of him and his many moods, to me he was a hero.

I had lost my Dad when I was four years old, at a time when all my siblings were too young to run a farm. That was when Owen came to work for our family. He and I hit it off right away. He listened to me, offered me rides on his bicycle and never showed annoyance with my numberless questions. His impatience with others was legendary, but with me he could not have been more kind or understanding.

He died many years ago. I still thank God that He sent this silent, strange yet kindly man into my life, at a time when I most needed the presence of a loving heart and a listening ear. He was that Good Shepherd who carried me when I could hardly walk and heard me when I had barely found my voice.

Is there anyone in your life who meant or means a great deal to you? Who is it?

Do you ever thank God for the gift of such a person?

Is there anyone to whom you are or have been a Good Shepherd?

Fr. Peter O'Reilly

KEEPING FAITH FIRST FAMILY FUN

John 10:1-10

S L C Y F E L S N G D P L
E E I L I E F G A P E S U
E O Z F I O C T N N V Z P
S N O I E M E I B G A T E
I R E V N K B U O E S S T
R O P E E G P S S V R D T
A B T E D L O F P E E H S
H B P M J S P C G L I R F
P E V N U D E N E E L L E
R R O S S M A B F R K B I
H R E Q K R P E E H S K F
L J D E T N D K O B R N L
T P A S T U R E T H L L Y

Find these words from the Gospel passage.

CLIMBS	GATE	GATEKEEPER
JESUS	LIFE	PASTURE
PHARISEES	RECOGNIZE	ROBBER
SAVED	SHEEP	SHEEPFOLD
STRANGER	THIEF	VOICE

Disciple's Reflection & Questions of the Week

*Fourth Sunday of Easter
4/13/2008*

*John 10:1-10
Faith-Sharing
Questions of the Week*



Our Lady of the Assumption

435 Berkeley Ave.
Claremont, CA
www.olaclaremont.org

Call to Prayer

We begin by calling upon God:

**In the Name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the
Holy Spirit, Amen.**

*We then pause for a moment to listen with
our hearts to this week's Gospel passage...*

The Word of God: *John 10:1-10*

The Gospel according to John

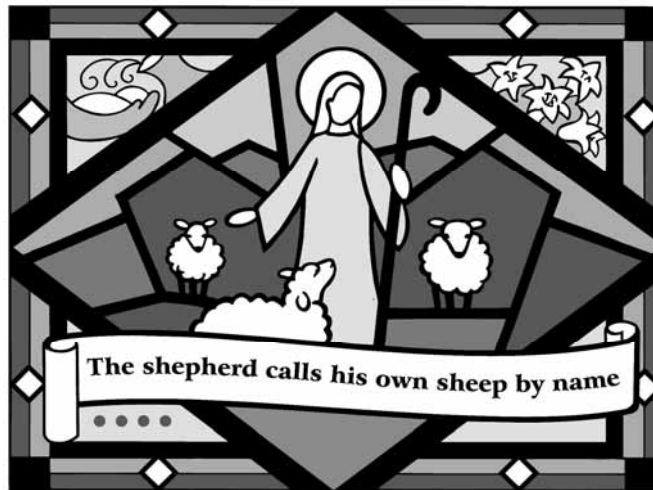
Jesus said: "Amen, amen I say to you, whoever does not enter a **sheepfold** through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the **shepherd** of the sheep.

The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice. But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers."

Although Jesus used this figure of speech the Pharisees did not realize what he was trying to tell them. So Jesus said again, "Amen, amen, I say to you, **I am the gate** for the sheep. All

who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly."

The Gospel of the Lord



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Gospel Glossary

Sheepfold: a low stone enclosure open to the sky.

Shepherd: The description of Christ as the Good Shepherd in John 10:1-21 brings to mind passages in the Old Testament books of Genesis, Exodus, Micah and Psalms in which God is characterized as shepherd.

I am the gate: Shepherds would sometimes use their bodies to block the entrance to the sheepfold during the night, becoming a living gate.

Faith Sharing

Questions of the Week

- In this Gospel, Jesus describes himself as a gate. What does he open me to?
- What does Jesus separate or protect me from?
- In what ways has Jesus given me abundant life?

Closing Prayer

Almighty and ever-living God,
Give us new strength from
the courage of Christ, our shepherd,
and lead us to join the saints
in heaven where he lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen

Fourth Sunday of Easter