

Together on the Road

Easter 2019

Fourth Sunday of Easter: I know my sheep and they follow me



Jesus said:

'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life; they will never be lost and no one will ever steal them from me. The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone, and no one can steal from the Father. The Father and I are one.' John

John 10:27-30

Pope Francis says in The Joy of the Gospel:

Faith also means believing in God, believing that he truly loves us, that he is alive, that he is mysteriously capable of intervening, that he does not abandon us and that he brings good out of evil by his power and his infinite creativity ... Let us believe the Gospel when it tells us that the kingdom of God is already present in this world and is growing, here and there, and in different ways: like the small seed which grows into a great tree ... Christ's resurrection everywhere calls forth seeds of that new world; even if they are cut back, they grow again, for the resurrection is already secretly woven into the fabric of this history, for Jesus did not rise in vain. May we never remain on the sidelines of this march of living hope! [278]

Reflection

Out of all the billions of people who have been, who are and who will be, God knows you by name and cares for you. You can never be lost, because God has made a decision to love you and nothing can change that. Even when life is hard and you are faced with worry and anxiety, God still loves you. You can face the troubles in life because God will never abandon you. The second Synod question invites us to look at the shadows in our life and find God there too.

Synod Question 2

When you reflect on your life now, as you look to the future, what causes you concern or worry?

Prayer

Light a candle and take a moment's silence before praying:

Risen Jesus, may we listen for your voice in the depths of our hearts, and in listening may we have the courage to follow you, knowing that we are safe in your loving care and have no need to be afraid. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Synod 2020: Have your say Please ensure that your voice is heard in response to the Four Synod Questions. Attend a local Listening Gathering in your parish or Pastoral Area (see local notices for details) or Respond online at www.synod2020.co.uk