

Monday, May 4, 2020; Fourth week of Easter

Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 41(42):2-3; 1 Pet 2:20-25; John 10:11-18

“I am the Good Shepherd.”

In today’s gospel, Jesus profiles the character of the Good Shepherd as one who lays down his life for his sheep, takes risks on their behalf to protect them, and personally and individually attends to them. Because each is so special, he knows each by name and intimately. He further expresses concern for his sheep in other folds and his desire for unity amongst his flock; concerns and desires that all disciples must take seriously and respond to accordingly.

Additionally, we must remain vigilant and guard against hirelings and wolves, always preying on the sheep. The only way we take advantage of these stellar qualities of the Good Shepherd is to always listen to his voice, always seek intimacy with him, and reciprocate his love for us.

Lord, safeguard the flock for which you laid down your life. Amen.

--Fr. Maurice