



ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE

Hearing the Voice of God

Dear St. Andrew,

“If today you hear his voice harden not your hearts” Ps 95

Seventeen years ago, I was the new youth minister in town. At daily mass, this very Psalm was being proclaimed and I distinctly remember the gentleman behind me saying to his friend, “What do you think *that* means?” You might be thinking, she has an incredible memory. But alas, it was a local celebrity who said it, which sadly cemented it in my mind. I wanted to turn around and share my thoughts on what the Psalmist may have meant, but I dared not acknowledge that I had overheard his query, not alone interrupt his Mass.

We must be listening for the voice of God, the Good Shepherd. We are told in Scripture that Jesus says in John 10:27, “My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me.” When we experience stress, anxiety, and confusion, we need to listen for His voice to clarify, lead, and bring us to safety. This little [video](#) gives a great example of sheep recognizing only the voice of their shepherd. God’s word is efficacious, it has power to do what God wills.

I got a chance to listen to a talk given recently by Fr. Chad Ripperger. He spoke at one of the parishes in Phoenix. Fr. Ripperger is an exorcist and has incredible insight and fifteen years’ experience in dealing with demons, and possession. I have listened to several of his talks over the years and this one called, “State of the Spiritual [Battlefield](#)” gives us a hard look at where we are and the raging spiritual battle he deals with daily. I have the full talk linked for you and is worth your time to listen and learn. For instance, he addresses the change in time that it now required to liberate someone who is possessed. Before 1963, he said that it was normally 1-2 days. Something changed sometime in that year when “seemingly overnight” liberation began to take anywhere from 10 months to years. In recent times, they have found that it can take an indefinite period of time.

There is a real enemy who is bent on our destruction. To deny this fact or chalk it up to outdated thinking, is exactly what *the tempter* hopes you will do. Ignorance is not bliss; it is dangerous to your eternal soul. It may be difficult to hear some of what he says, but he is the guy dealing with demons on the daily. When we open our hearts to truth of the matter, whether we like it or not, it has the power to convert our minds and hearts.

Listen and learn. Let not your hearts grow hard, but filled with the truth that sets it free and is open to God’s healing. GET TO CONFESSION. Make it a priority. Here is a fantastic examination of conscious (attached on the Friday Flash). Don’t forget our next Adoration burst and confession is the 15th at 7pm. Walk/Drive through stations are today (10am-8pm) and next Friday. Invite someone to join you.