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The Voice

by SR. JULIEMARIE MCDONALD, SND on [04/23/2015](#)
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Fourth Sunday of Easter–Cycle B
April 26, 2015

“He walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice.”
(John 10:4)

The Voice

Do you hear voices? Of course you do...in fact you hear voices every day! Whose voice do you hear? You hear these voices and more: Mom’s, Dad’s, and family voices. Throughout the day you hear the voices on TV, your boss at work, in the doctor’s offices, or when you shop, watch baseball games or call a friend and in many more places.

As a human, you may recognize a voice if you only hear them. Your family pets can do the same. Remarkable!

Do you listen to them? You better or suffer the consequences: split a family, lose your job, get tooth decay and most seriously die. (Think about this one.)

About Sr. Juliemarie McDonald, SND

Sister Juliemarie McDonald joined the Sisters of Notre Dame of Chardon, Ohio in 1951. She holds an MA in English Studies from John Carroll University MA in Scripture from St. Charles Seminary. After 32 years of teaching classes ranging from first grade to college level, she then became a researcher, campus minister, director of religious education and a pastoral minister in Mease Hospital in Dunedin, Florida. In her semi-retirement, Sister Juliemarie writes reflections and faith sharing sessions for the young sisters in formation in Africa, Philippines, Korea, India and the USA. Her spare time is spent as a crafter.



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Now, what about “The Voice—God’s Voice?” “I never hear the voice of God,” you might say. Why not? In all the noise surrounding you, how can you? God tells you to “Be still and know that I am your God.” God often calls you, but your line is busy.

It seems to me we don’t recognize “The Voice.” God’s voice is not booming, thunderous or monotonous. God has a surprise voice. It is not locution you hear, at least not often.

Not only do we not listen, we are simply unaware.

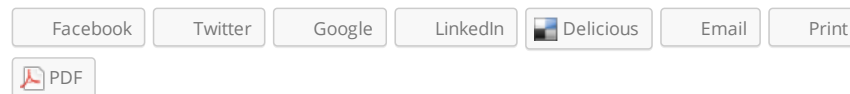
Have you ever thought God’s voice is in a song? How about a beautiful sunset? What is God saying to you as you see the first crocus or daffodil after a long, dreary and cold winter? Don’t under estimate your own voice which God uses to bring back souls gone astray. Just maybe, he sends a word to you as he has sent Job and other prophets and saints.

Listen. Surprise God by acting upon his special words to you. Be aware. Listen.

For Reflection and Sharing:

1. What specifically keeps you from being aware enough to listen?
2. Is there any way you could change it?
3. What will it cost you to try out a new routine in order to be still and listen?
4. Whose voice annoys you most? Why? What does it have to do with your annoyance?
5. The voice of the Good Shepherd acts and reaches out to the lost and vulnerable. Do you?
6. Are you a voice with power? How do you contribute to those who have no power?

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Thank you for sharing this! Sometimes in my busyness, God's Voice gets drowned out and I can't hear Him. I need to slow down, stop, and rest in Him. He is my Peace in such a noisy world!! I want to make my voice heard. I have been singing in all of my music classes that I am teaching. My students love it!!



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