

“Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the Child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! “(Is. 49:16)



Every mother has a special love for her child. The tender loving care, the gentle touch and the closeness with her baby when she keeps her/him close to her breast; such intimacy can exist only between a mother and her child. She is prepared to make any amount of sacrifice for the wellbeing and happiness of her baby. The prophet Isaiah places before us the image of a God whose love towards his children surpasses that of a mother. Even if a child later turns out to be a cause for great pain and suffering, a mother cannot reject her child and will have all excuses or reasons for the child's inordinate behavior or action. St. Luke in the parable of the Prodigal Son presents to us God as such a compassionate and forgiving Father. I am awestruck at the thought that the Good Shepherd vocation is to represent this all merciful God to the people, especially those who are wounded by the society, the unloved, the rejected and the lonely. Like Jesus, the Good Shepherd” we are to look for the lost” and bring them back to the sheepfold of God's Kingdom. Because each one is precious in God's sight and He “calls each one by name.” No wonder that our dear Mother Foundress knew “One person is more precious than the whole world.”

As I prepare myself to be part of the great mission of shepherding God's little ones I hear the words from the book of Exodus “Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.” (Exodus 2:9)

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