



Racine Dominicans
Committed to Truth + Compelled to Justice

PRAY, PONDER, PREACH AND PRACTICE THE WORD OF GOD

Facilitated by Racine Dominican Preaching Committee

August 2026

It's All About Transformation

By S. Carla Mae Streeter

Ordinary Time continues to unfold, challenging us with the spiritual formation needed by disciples as we live our day-to-day joys and sorrows. August gives us two special feasts to remind us what it is all about: it's about transformation. Whose? Ours. The first feast is the Transfiguration of Jesus on August 6, showing us what a risen human will look like. Then we celebrate the Assumption of Mary on August 15, showing us the transformation in store for us. It's about how love will make us beautiful... as it did for our Mother.

The Sunday readings will support how this happens. First, we are urged to keep tuned into the Word. Then we are reminded to be patient. It's a process. Next, we learn that our task to bring it about is to proclaim the word and heal...as Jesus did. Finally, the last two Sundays point to leadership, being chosen and keeping the eyes of our hearts on self-giving foot-washing, which is Jesus way of true serving.

*This bread is my body, you said,
and it transformed.
You too are my body, you say,
and I am transforming too...*



Thank you to Associate Steve Gilbert for this month's reflections.

Sunday, August 2, 2026, 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Matthew 14: 13-21 | "The feeding of the five thousand"

Jesus takes 5 loaves and 2 fishes and turns a potentially disastrous situation into a festive celebration for a huge crowd of people. The way Jesus takes the loaves and fishes, raises his eyes to heaven, says the blessing, breaks the loaves, hands them to his disciples to feed the crowds reminds us of the Eucharist, and that left to our own devices we are helpless, but with Jesus all things are possible.

Sunday, August 9, 2026, 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Matthew 14: 22-33 | "Jesus walks on the water"

Without Jesus, we could be afraid like the disciples are, on a boat battling the heavy seas, exhausting ourselves while trying not to shipwreck. As Peter starts to walk on the water he loses faith, becomes afraid, starts to sink, crying out "Lord! Save me!" and Jesus does. If we bring God's presence ever closer, God is there waiting for us. How does God appear to me during each day?

Sunday, August 16, 2026, 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Matthew 15: 21-28 | "The Canaanite woman debates with Jesus"

This appears to be a bit of an enigma as to why Jesus seems reluctant to help the Canaanite woman save her daughter. Even when rebuffed, she is persistent, determined and believes in the power of the Lord. She worships Jesus, asks for pity, pays him homage, saying "Lord, help me". Her great faith is rewarded and her daughter is saved, even though she was Gentile and not from Israel. How does this show us that God wants the salvation of all peoples and nations?

Sunday, August 23, 2026, 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Matthew 16: 21-27 | "You are Peter and on this rock, I will build my Church"

Jesus asks his disciples, "Who do you say the Son of Man is?" Simon Peter says. "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus gives him his new name, and Jesus's name is called over Peter just like it is for us at our baptism. At our baptism, we become the Lord's with the responsibility of believing, trusting and following in his footsteps. Am I a willing disciple?

Sunday, August 30, 2026, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Matthew 16: 21-27 | "Get behind me, Satan!"

The verse continues, Jesus says, "You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." How do we renounce ourselves, take up the cross, and follow Jesus? What difficulties is Jesus asking me to face, and I am avoiding?