



Racine Dominicans
Committed to Truth + Compelled to Justice

PRAY, PONDER, PREACH AND PRACTICE THE WORD OF GOD

Facilitated by Racine Dominican Preaching Committee February 2026

Where the Light Leads

By S. Carla Mae Streeter

We are in the shorter Ordinary Time that follows the coming of the Light of the world. The January Sunday texts dealt with call and the following of the Light. This summons will continue as February leads us to Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten journey.



The Light leads first to the Presentation in the temple, and a call to remember we are baptized into a community. Our journey is not that of a “Lone Ranger,” but into the midst of brothers and sisters. As the weeks unfold, we are invited to check out what kind of companion we are to them. We are marked by dust, an abrupt reminder that our arrogance and excess can make us bad company.

The remedy is prayer, fasting, and almsgiving...a spring cleaning of the heart and soul, and we are invited to do it together. So, how do these three help me to clean up my act, and be the Light Bearer I’m called to be? Prayer helps me to see straight, fasting helps me to evaluate, and almsgiving helps me to walk straight with a light step. Prayer helps me to see the Light, fasting helps me to choose Light over the excess that brings darkness, and almsgiving frees me from the burden of “mine!” It’s time to wash the windows, choose what I will look at through them, and lay down the burdens that slow me down.

*I know who you are...
you pine for the sweet scent of incense.
You whine for the worship I’ve pledged to Another.
Your promises are as empty as old wineskins.
I choose instead Faith’s dark light...
the voice of a Shepherd who defies death...
and who grasps me with a wounded hand.*

Thank you to S. Laura Goedken for this month's reflections.

February 1, 2026 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 Matthew 5:1-12a

As I read the Beatitudes in the gospel of Matthew, I think of John Dear who wrote on the Beatitudes. He said they are the hope and prayer and vision of Jesus and the blueprint for Christian Discipleship. In his letter to the Corinthians Paul invites us to consider our own calling. We are not wise or powerful by human standards. God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong. Whoever boasts, shall boast in the Lord. When have I boasted? Do I give any credit to Jesus?

February 8, 2026 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 58:7-10 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 Matthew 5:13-16

In the gospel of Matthew, we are told that we are the salt of the earth and the light of the world. We don't light a lamp and put it under a bushel basket. We want everyone to see the light. What light do you have that everyone should see? What are the good deeds that you do to glorify the Lord? If you are the salt of the earth, how do you use your salt?

February 15, 2026 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 15:15-20 1 Corinthians 2:6-10 Matthew 5:17-1-3

"Eye has not seen and ear has not heard what God has prepared for those who love him." This is a quote from our second reading for today. Imagine what God has prepared for us. I think of this line often when someone I know has died. A friend of mine once said to me that no one can come back and tell us what life hereafter is like because we could never understand it. Try to imagine life after death. What can you come up with?

February 22, 2026 First Sunday of Lent

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11

In the gospel we read that Jesus went into the desert and fasted for forty days and nights. Afterwards he was hungry. Any of us would be hungry. We would be hungry after one day. The devil tempted him, first asking him to turn stones into loaves of bread. Then we have the first reading from Genesis where the serpent tempted Eve and she ate of the apple. Jesus never gave into any temptation but Adam and Eve did. How you deal with your temptations?