



Racine Dominicans  
Committed to Truth + Compelled to Justice

# PRAY, PONDER, PREACH AND PRACTICE THE WORD OF GOD

*Facilitated by Racine Dominican Preaching Committee June 2024*

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## WHERE THE POWER COMES FROM

*By S. Carla Mae Streeter*

With the First Sunday in June, the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, the big feasts that follow upon Pentecost are celebrated...there was the Trinity and then Corpus Christi.

So, where is this ancient Elder, Holy Mother the Church, taking us? She draws us right back into mystagogy. That is a beautiful Greek word for 'adult formation after baptism.' Did we think we were finished when we were confirmed? We were just beginning...!



On this Corpus Christi Feast she shows us where the power for our constant transfiguration comes from. Yes, the Spirit is quietly at work in the midst of our lives, transforming us into what we eat. We are being Christified little by little by little. Every Eucharistic kiss brings us a bit further into our new life, for it is the Risen One who says to us, "This is my body..." Ponder it: you are not the same after each communion.

That means we need to be asking how each of the Sundays of June are highlighting a change in us. Be ready to be formed, reformed and transformed.

WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT?  
HOW WILL I LOOK WHEN I LOOK LIKE YOU?  
WILL IT SHOW THROUGH MY EYES, MY SMILE?  
WHAT IS YOUR PLAN FOR ME?  
YOU KNOW, AND THAT'S ALL I NEED TO KNOW.  
AMEN.

THANK YOU TO ASSOCIATE CAROL WESLEY FOR THIS MONTH'S REFLECTIONS.

June 2, 2024 | The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ | Mark 14:12-16, 22  
*"Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples? Then he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready. Make the preparations for us there."*

Jesus calls us to join him in the upper room where he gifts us himself in the bread and wine. Transformed by these gifts and committed to our baptismal vows, who are those we invite to our tables? Who do we invite to share in this table of love?

June 9, 2024 | the 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mk 14:12-16, 22, 26  
*"For whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."*

Jesus was casting out demons but his family and community thought he was doing it by the power of Beelzebub. In today's society, we would think him countercultural if not simply crazy. How are we like Jesus in casting out the darkness of our world by bringing light to darkness? How, as Spirit filled people, are we Jesus' family by doing his will of loving service?

June 16, 2024 | 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mk 4: 25-34  
*"...it springs up and becomes the largest of plants and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade."*

Systems theory tells us, simply, that everything we do affects others and that we (including non-humans!) are connected to each other. This tells us, as Jesus illustrates here, that all our works, however small, have importance in the kingdom of God. How can we rejoice that all our works, no matter how small or insignificant in our minds, are special in the sight of God?

June 23, 2024 | 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mk 4:35-41  
*"Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?"*

In our current political climate, it is hard not to be terrified at the risk of our democracy. Jesus tells us to have faith. How do we choose to believe in the power of Jesus' love for us, knowing that faith in him leads to hope which leads to love and ultimately, to peace - the calming of our waters?

June 30, 2024 | 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mk 5:21-24, 35b-43  
*"The girl, a child of twelve, arose immediately and walked around. And [Jesus] said...that she should be given something to eat."*

Jesus brought this little girl back to those who loved her. After this miracle, he told her family to feed her. How do we recognize that small acts of love and kindness are miracles in themselves... that God works through us as we feed a hungry child or even a stray cat?