



Racine Dominicans
Committed to Truth + Compelled to Justice

PRAY, PONDER, PREACH AND PRACTICE THE WORD OF GOD

Facilitated by Racine Dominican Preaching Committee June 2025

The Promise 2

By S. Carla Mae Streeter

Yes, there is a part 2 to the promise. There is not only the promise of new life and a transformed humanness. We are shown a destination and given Someone to plead our cause all the way there.

Before Vatican II, the Feast of the Ascension was almost totally eclipsed for most of the folks in the pews. It was celebrated on a Thursday, 40 days after Easter, and we missed it because most of us were at work or in school. That is no longer the case. It is now celebrated on a Sunday, but most of us still wonder what it's all about. Yay, for Jesus...he is now safely back in heaven at his Father's side, right? Yes, it is Hooray for Jesus, but it's much more. It's about us.

Keep your eyes on the Prize. Yes, look up into the heavens as he goes, but take note of what you see. You see your own flesh and blood, transformed and glorified. You see your own DNA going straight to the side of the Father. And when our Shepherd gets there, the Father asks, "Son, where are all the rest?" And his answer? "They're coming, Father, they're coming." That's you and me...that's every struggling human being who has tried to keep faith, who has tried to struggle through the tears, the losses, the tough times. The Ascension is our feast too. It is the Feast of Coming Attractions, of our homecoming.

But that is only the first part of The Promise 2. There is more. We are given an Advocate to see us through, and this One does not disappoint. The One given us to keep struggling, keep hoping, keep getting up after we fall down, is none other than God's own powerful Love personified. Yes, it is the Holy Spirit, and make no mistake...it is not just a bird. The dove is only one image the scripture gives us. There is also water, wind, fire, oil, blood and wine...to make us drunk with love. Yes, there are seven images of the Holy Spirit in scripture, each of them worth reflecting on. The dove is gentle, the fire cauterizes, the wind clears out stench, the water washes, the oil lubricates, the blood redeems. We need all of this to escape the strangle-hold of evil. Pentecost reminds us that this Love-Power is loose in the world, our world. Just yell "Help" and wrap yourself in a Love greater than your own.

*Spirit of the Living God,
Wrap me in Yourself for the next lap of the journey...*

Thank you to S. Kathy Slesar for this month's reflections.

June 1, 2025 | The Ascension

Acts 1: 1 – 11, Ephesians 1:17-23, Luke 24: 46 – 53

As Jesus ascends into heaven he reminds his disciples of all that had happened to him and said to them – “You are witnesses of these things.” We too know what happened to Jesus and are called to be witnesses as well. As a disciple, in what ways do you give witness to Jesus and the Good News? How do you reflect joy to others? How do you offer praise to God?



June 8, 2025 | Pentecost Sunday

Acts of the Apostles 2: 1-11, 1 Corinthians 12: 3-7, 12-13, John 14: 15 – 16, 23b – 26

The disciples were afraid to put their faith in Jesus into action. The Holy Spirit gave them the courage to act. What holds you back from sharing God's love? What gift of the Holy Spirit do you need right now? What helps you to live as a disciple, not just in word but in action?

June 15, 2025 | The Most Holy Trinity

Proverbs 8: 22-31, Romans 5: 1-5, John 16: 12 – 15

The Spirit of Truth will guide you to all truth. Sometimes it is difficult to see or admit the truth about ourselves, a situation or an outcome. By staying connected to the Trinity, we will be guided to the truth. What truth do you seek?

June 22, 2025 | The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Genesis 14: 18-20, 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26, Luke 9: 11-17

Jesus said the blessing over the five loaves and two fish. All ate and were satisfied. In what ways do you find Eucharist to be satisfying? How are you strengthened after receiving Eucharist? We are called to become what we receive- the Body of Christ. What shows that you are part of the Body of Christ?

June 29, 2025 | Jubilee

Our Constitution Page 9 #7 adapted, 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18, John 21: 15-19

After professing his love for Jesus three times, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “feed my sheep.” We too profess to love Jesus. What actions show that we too love Jesus and are about feeding the people of God? In what ways do we follow Jesus? In what ways do we feed the people around us?