



PRAY, PONDER, PREACH AND PRACTICE THE WORD OF GOD

Facilitated by Racine Dominican Preaching Committee

March 2026

Springtime of the Soul

By S. Carla Mae Streeter

Winter's been long. We long to see buds on the trees. We're in lent, and that means it's time for spring housecleaning...of the soul. Yes, lent means "springtime." We all know what spring housecleaning looks like...it's getting the grime off the windows, freshening the musty bedding, getting the dust bunnies out from under the bed, and raking the yard. But with the soul?

Christmas and Epiphany have left us filled with light...the Easter Mystery will reveal what that light will do to us...it will transfigure us, as it did Jesus. So our part is to enter the desert of self-discovery...to spot whatever compromises our discipleship. It might look like this:



Prayer: not necessarily more and longer, but sitting and letting ourselves be looked at and loved. This is hard, but it can clarify our inner vision better than any Windex.

Fasting: not necessarily from food, but maybe from resentment, from anger, from hopelessness. God's got us...and isn't going to let go. Keep hold of that wounded hand, squeeze it when the rage wants to suffocate you.

Almsgiving: not feeling guilty because you are just making ends meet, but giving of your time to contact someone you haven't called in a long time...or spending time with someone who really irritates you.

*Holy One, open up my soul
and help me to take a deep breath...
cleansing my vision with tears
that will water the little green hope
pushing up through the grime.*

Thank you to Associate Mare Wheeler for this month's reflections.

March 1, 2026 | Second Sunday of Lent | Matthew 17: 1-9

The theme for the Gospels this month might be “What to release and what to transform.” Today’s Gospel gives us a glimpse of transformation in Jesus’s mountaintop revelation.

Put yourself on that mountain top –what in you needs to be transfigured?

March 8, 2026 | Third Sunday in Lent | John 4: 5-42

In today’s Gospel, the Samaritan woman says to us, “Come see the man who told me everything I have done.” In my family, we say that speaking the truth plainly is “Telling the truth with the bark on.” Hearing such truth we are offered the sacrament of release of our illusions and lies.

*Who tells you the truth this way?
What truth needs to be released in you this day?*

March 15, 2026 | Fourth Sunday in Lent | John 9: 1-41

The blind man is transformed in this Gospel. The blind man not only gains his sight, but also asserts his voice and gains both insight and salvation in conversation with Jesus.

*Today, give the gift of listening to another’s
viewpoint from their perspective.*

March 22, 2026 | Fifth Sunday in Lent | John 11: 1-45

It is just not Lazarus who is transformed in this Gospel. Yes, his life is given back to him. And we also see his two sisters’ faith transformed, their doubts released.

*Just as Jesus commanded Lazarus, “Come forth,”
what needs to come forth in you?*

March 29, 2026 | Palm Sunday | Matthew 21: 1-11

The transforming glitz of a parade. Mesmerizing, exciting, tantalizing. The recognition. The roar of the crowd. The adulation. What’s not to love about a parade into the holy city? Wait. Where’s the catch? Ahhh. We know how this parade ends.

*What recognition are you desperate to secure
before the deeper transformation begins?*