



Racine Dominicans
Committed to Truth + Compelled to Justice

PRAY, PONDER, PREACH AND PRACTICE THE WORD OF GOD

Facilitated by Racine Dominican Preaching Committee November 2024

Saying "Thank You" is Enough!

By S. Carla Mae Streeter

With November, the liturgical year winds down, and we celebrate the Feast of Christ the Servant King. Then like some wonderful dear ancient Grandmother, the Church gathers us around and begins the Great Story all over again...his coming...for he is always coming.

The month is full of falling leaves, and the first frost, and the trees begin their winter sleep. But the ancient Grandmother is not finished forming us yet...making sure the golden glow that comes from her wrinkled face kisses our own. She's summing up our formation time, repeating once again those words of wisdom that make us real signs of the Word for our world. She assures us, by showing us the saints, our heroes and heroines. Then she has us remember there is just one commandment we need to keep in mind. She brings back one of her favorites, reminding us we have nothing that we have not received. Then she gets us ready for judgment, his coming at the end, so that we don't forget who he really is. She lights the fire, gathers us around, and prepares to begin the wonderful story all over again...for he is her beloved, and she has eyes only for him. The liturgical year ends, only to begin again. It is we who will be different, we who will continue to be transformed by him in his word and his disguise of bread...

Thank you, thank you...!
You form me by your word
and little by little
I become more your disciple...
I become more you.
Take my breath away in wonder,
amaze me once again by your mercy.
I can only say thank you...thank you...!
And it is enough.



Thank you to Associate Kathie Solie for this month's reflections.

November 3, 2024

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mark 12: 28b-34

In this passage from Mark, Jesus is asked what actions are most important for His followers. His response is simple, yet profound. First, complete love of the Lord God. Secondly, love your neighbor as yourself. Our challenge rests primarily in the second direction. Who is our neighbor? We do not get to 'pick and choose'. It is easy to love the neighbor who always waves and, in season, shares the abundance of their garden. It is a much more daunting assignment to love the neighbor whose yard signs support a political candidate we find abhorrent. Yet, we are called to accept and to 'love' all. Let us ponder how well we do this and do we do this.

November 10, 2024

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mark 12: 38-44 or 12: 42-44

This passage may seem to us easy to apply to our lives. Few of us experience the lives and social honor of the 'scribes'. If we sit with these words for a time beyond a casual reading or listening. Soon enough, our conscience is awakened. We realize these lives indeed have meaning for us. No matter how 'lowly' our lives might be perceived, our minds seem to find ways to seek honor and recognition. These words of scripture can challenge us if we take time to be with them. We must ask, how do I act like a scribe?

November 17, 2024

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time | Mark 13: 24-32

It is a challenge to hear these words and imagine them spoken by the Jesus I have come to know in my study and learnings. I realize scripture was written from stories passed down among the Christians, not from video tapes or such recordings. However, there are messages within these words that are simple and clear. We must be aware of the changes in the world around us and in our own lives. While the scripture speaks of his literal return, I believe the message is about his return to each of us individually, to take us 'home' with Him.

November 23, 2024

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe | Mark 11: 9, 10

We hear in these words of scripture the dialogue between Pilate and Jesus. Pilate was taunting Jesus and His response provided words of wisdom and challenge to us. He said, "I will come to testify to the truth." We are called to speak the truth, to live the truth and to know Jesus in that truth. Do I?