



July 2008

Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur

Making known God's goodness

WORDS FROM ST. JULIE

Simplicity in all things with the good God, with your good sisters, with your children, with everybody-above all, with yourself. --Namur, July 1, 1813.

WHERE ARE WE ON THE JOURNEY

July finds us continuing through Ordinary Time. Our God is a living and present among us. Do we open our eyes and hearts to that Presence? The Gospel readings for this month focus on Matthew. Chapter 13 treats us to Jesus' use of parables: a literary form that takes the "ordinary" stuff of daily life and turns it into symbol of the Divine Life present with us. Chapter 14 shows Jesus reaching out, through other people, with the "ordinary" stuff of fish and loaves of bread. How is God reaching out to us through the ordinary stuff of our lives today? Ask for the grace to see God present in the ordinary as you take time with the readings of the Sunday liturgies.

July 6, 2008 14 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Zec 9:9-10 Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14 ; Rom 8:9, 11-13 Mt 11:25-30 ;
July 13, 2008 15 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Is 55:10-11 ; Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14 ; Rom 8:18-23 ; Mt 13: 1-23 or 13: 1-9
July 20, 2008 16 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Wis 12:13, 16-19 ; Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 ; Rom 8:26-27 ; Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30
July 27, 2008 17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12 ; Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77; 127-128; 129-130 ; Rom 8:28-30 ; Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

WHERE AM I ON THE JOURNEY?

Read the passages again. In prayer, reflect on the following questions:

Zec 9:9-10	I ask God to show me the peacemakers in this world. I pray for peace.
Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14	What images of God do I see in PS 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14? Which of them speak to my experience of God?
Rom 8:9, 11-13	Where do I find a supportive Christian community? What spiritual gift(s) do I need at this moment? I ask God for what I need.
Mt 11:25-30 ;	I pray to see with the eyes of a child. I name my burdens and talk to Jesus about them. Which ones am I ready to turn over to Jesus?
Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14	How is God's Word like gentle rain watering my life? I ask the Spirit to show me the answer to this question. Then I pray PS 65:10-14.
Mt 13: 1-23 or 13: 1-9	I slowly read MT 13:1-9, asking the Holy Spirit to guide me into the parable: what kind of ground am I? What kind of ground do I want to be? I talk to god about it.

[Rom 8:26-27](#)

I read RM 8:26-27. I turn to the Holy Spirit and open my heart....

[Mt 13:24-43 or
13:24-30](#)

I ask the Holy Spirit to show me the wheat (God's presence and action) in my life. Then I ask to see the weeds (all that which is not of God) in my life. I talk to God about both, allowing God to wrap me in Love.

[1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12](#)

I pray 1KGS 3:5, 7-12, putting myself in Solomon's place. What do I ask for? Why do I wish that gift? I ask God to show me the gifts I've already been given and I give thanks for what I'm shown.

[Mt 13:44-52 or
13:44-46](#)

I re-read MT 13:44-52. Which of the images speaks to my heart? I take the image to God and ask: What are you telling me/showing me through this image? I talk to God about it.

A PRAYER FOR THE SEASON

My God, I thank you with all my heart for all the graces you have bestowed on me during my whole life, and especially for those of this day. Amen. (St. Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, *At Prayer with the Saints*, p. 189)

Questions or Comments: eMail [Sr. Angele](#)

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News for June 2008

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