

May 13, 2008  
Tuesday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time

Readings of the day may be found on the following link:

<http://www.nccbuscc.org/nab>

James 1:12-18

Psalm 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19

Mark 8:14-21

Do you not yet understand or comprehend? Are your hearts hardened? Do you have eyes and not see, ears and not hear?

If we are honest, I believe we would all need to answer yes to these questions. Not because we are totally unaware of Jesus' message but because faith formation continues until the day we die, and then maybe after as well. Our transformation is not yet complete. A simpler way of recognizing this is for us to look around at the world we live in: what do we see? Do we see a world of brother loving brother and sister loving sister? Do we see a world where all God's children are fed and clothed and housed? Do we see a world where forgiveness reigns and the reign of God is first and foremost on our personal and national agenda? According to UN statistics, hunger kills 6 million children per year. According to a study in 2007 by the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty 3.5 million people, 1.35 million of them children are likely to experience homelessness in a given year. In 2006, 36.5 million people were in poverty, not statistically different from 2005. I do not expect it will be different this year either. There are more statistics that reveal that we do not yet get the fullness of Jesus' message. Mother Teresa tells us that we cannot do great things in this life; we can only do small things with great love. She saw her work as a small thing. I wonder if Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr, and Dorothy Day also felt that their work was a small thing. I wonder what small thing I am called to do, what small thing our parish is called to, what small thing our country is called to do to promote the reign of God in our times?

*We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop. ~Mother Teresa*

What small thing with great love can I do today to reveal God's love and desire for peace to the world?