

June 6, 2008  
Friday of the Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

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

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

2 Timothy 3:10-17

Psalms 119:157, 160, 161, 165, 166, 168

Mark 12:35-37

*The Lord said to my lord, 'Sit at my right hand until I place your enemies under your feet.'*

The word that stood out for me in today's gospel is *until*. It speaks to me of patience. Somewhere I recently read that the practice of love enlarges our capacity for patience. That particular statement at that particular time was food for thought. Walking patiently through the difficulties of life is not my strong suite. I am much better at it now than I was in my early adult years. But there still remains a subtle impatience when I run up against people and situations that seem entrenched in dysfunctional ways of thinking and acting. *The Lord said to my lord, 'Sit at my right hand until...'* These words take me back to the message of yesterday's call and challenge: all holiness is rooted in the practice of love. So, to sit patiently, in the midst of what is obviously not working or even just mildly irritating is an act of love. However, Jesus' life has taught me that sitting patiently is not synonymous with inaction; it is, rather, action without judgment, exasperation, resentment, or expectation to a particular outcome. Sitting patiently is, at its highest form, trust and faithfulness to a God who is always active, always loving us into becoming a better person.

*Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, (love) is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*

1 Cor 3: 4

What lessons of love has life taught you today?