

June 27, 2008
Friday of the Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time

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

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

2 Kings 25:1-12

Psalms 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6

Matthew 8:1-4

*"Lord, if you wish, you can make me clean."
He stretched out his hand, touched him, and said,
"I will do it. Be made clean."*

Once again, all we have to do is ask. The trick for us is staying wedded to asking for the 'right' things. What has my prayer been about lately? What have I been asking for lately? Are my requests ones that will make me a better steward of God's grace? If I get what I ask for, will I be better able to love others? Will I know more about compassion, forgiveness, and justice? Will I be living a life of greater simplicity and patience? Will I forgive the hurts I have filed away and still hold onto? Will I have let go of my fears? What will I know about service and where will that take me? The leper today proclaims his belief in the power of Jesus to heal him. Do we want to be healed? Is our faith as strong as the man in this gospel?

"For grace is given not because we have done good works, but in order that we may be able to do them."

- Saint Augustine of Hippo (354-430)