

July 24, 2008
Thursday of the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time

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

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

Jeremiah 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13

Psalms 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-11

Matthew 13:10-17

□ This is why I speak to them in parables, because they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand.

I wish I could say that I am like the disciples to whom Jesus said, "But blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear. Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it." However, I am far too often the one who is blind, deaf, or too dense to get the meaning of the message. I need to have messages repeated to me in many different ways. I am grateful for a God who is so patient that I am given the time to learn at my own pace. The world tells us that the 'prize' goes to the fastest, the smartest, or the cleverest. Yet God does not care how much time it takes us to 'get it'. The real importance is that we continue on the journey, that we do not give up; that we continually say yes to the invitation to live in a deeper relationship with God, that we are open to struggling with and through the challenge that Jesus issues us daily.

Do not scrutinize so closely whether you are doing much or little, ill or well, so long as what you do is not sinful and that you are heartily seeking to do everything for God. Try as far as you can to do everything well, but when it is done, do not think about it. Try, rather, to think of what is to be done next. Go on simply in the Lord's way, and do not torment yourself.

--Francis de Sales

What did you see and hear today that is new to you about the mystery of God?

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