

August 5, 2008
Tuesday of the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time

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

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

Jeremiah 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22

Psalms 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23

Matthew 15:1-2, 10-14

He said in reply, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. If a blind man leads a blind man, both will fall into a pit."

I might be going out on a limb here, but I believe that, in spite of all the rhetoric about committing our lives to Jesus, as a nation, we are, in far too many ways, the blind leading the blind. Jesus was a rebel. He was a messenger of non-violence. Yet, we live in a world filled with violence in the form of crime, war, greed, hunger, homelessness, and poverty—to name just a few of our ills as a society. I can't believe these are the plants God our Creator has planted. I heard a story recently, which I will attempt to paraphrase. Someone asked an audience who they thought was the saddest person in the Bible. They offered several possibilities, all of which were promptly denied. "The answer is God," the speaker said. "I believe that God is the saddest person in the Bible because he has to watch how we treat one another."

...to remain silent and indifferent is the greatest sin of all..."

Elie Wiesel