

August 16, 2008
Saturday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time

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

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

Ezekiel 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32

Psalms 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19

Matthew 19:13-15

"Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

A few days ago we were told to become like children. That makes this gospel a personal invitation to approach Jesus, as long as I leave pride and arrogance behind. It's not always easy to see our own pride and arrogance. I recall those with whom I have crossed paths that were prideful and arrogant. I didn't much enjoy being around them and did my best to avoid them. These two gospels encourage me to search my heart for areas of pride and arrogance that I need to purge so that I might even hear the invitation of Jesus. Pride and arrogance often make us deaf to anything outside the self.

"Peace comes from being able to contribute the best that we have, and all that we are, toward creating a world that supports everyone. But it is also securing the space for others to contribute the best that they have and all that they are."

~Hafsat Abiola