

August 23, 2008  
Saturday of the Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time

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

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

Ezekiel 43:1-7ab

Psalm 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14

Matthew 23:1-12

*Therefore, do and observe all things whatsoever they tell you, but do not follow their example. For they preach but they do not practice.*

I think that my reflection in response to yesterday's gospel led me directly to this passage today. I want to remember all those who have led by example, whose integrity has taught me what true discipleship means. Yesterday I recalled the life of Dorothy Day Today, I remember Mother Theresa. There is a beautiful picture of Dorothy Day and Mother Theresa meeting with one another. These two women were kindred spirits. It was not an easy life they chose, but they did so with much love, even when their spirits were tired and their bodies were worn. My prayer today is that I do not merely admire them, but that I allow them to inform me and move me toward what is my true call as I attempt to live the gospel Jesus preached and challenged us to live.

*Let this be thy whole endeavour, this thy prayer, this thy desire,--that thou mayest be stripped of all selfishness, and with entire simplicity follow Jesus only.*

Thomas a Kempis