Lk 10:38-42.  
  
Jesus entered a village where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him.   
She had a sister named Mary who sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak.  
Martha, burdened with much serving, came to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me."   
The Lord said to her in reply, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things.   
There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her."  
  
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Commentary of the day   
  
Odo of Canterbury (?-1200), Benedictine monk  
Sermon for the feast of the Assumption  
  
Martha and Mary together  
  
Jesus is described in the Gospel as having been welcomed by two sisters, of whom one served him while the other listened intently to his word. This applies to the Blessed Virgin Mary.In these two women of whom Scripture speaks it is customary to see a symbol of the two forms of life in the Church: Martha stood for the active life and Mary the contemplative. Martha labored at works of mercy; Mary reposed in gazing. The active is given to love of neighbor, the contemplative to love of God. Now, Christ is God and man. And he was enfolded by the unique love of the Blessed Virgin Mary both  
when she served his humanity and when she attended to contemplation of his divinity...Others serve the members of Christ's body; the Virgin Mary served Christ in person..., and not just with external deeds but, with her own substance, she offered him the hospitality of her womb. During his infancy she assisted the weakness of his human nature, fondling it, bathing it, caring for it. She carried it to Egypt when fleeing Herod's persecution and brought it back again. Finally, after numerous services, she stood by it as it died upon the cross and assisted at its burial... It is thus she was a Martha, and who could equal her in service? In contemplation, too, in Mary's part, she is beyond all others. Truly, what contemplative is there who would not be she who bore the divinity itself within her, united to her flesh in the person of God's Son! Then too, she listened to him, talked with him, played with him, contemplated him. “In Christ are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” (Col 2,3)... Such was Mary, the contemplative, who, in the only-begotten Son of God whom she begot in her  
womb, beheld the glory of the entire Trinity.