

**Christ Child Catholic Church**  
***Dedicated to Growth in Christ and to the  
Challenges of Loving Service***

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**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**  
**August 2, 2020**

**O GOD, come to my assistance; O LORD,  
make haste to help me! You are my rescuer,  
my help; O LORD, do not delay.**  
Psalm 70:2, 6

**First reading Isaiah: 55: 1-3**

**An Invitation to Abundant Life**

In this passage, the Lord contrasts His **thoughts** and **ways** with sinful Israel's. Human plans inevitably fail and falter, but the Lord's plans are different. When He promises forgiveness and restored blessing for His people. He will be true to His **word**. Just as the rain and snow fall to the ground and fulfill their God given purpose unhindered. God's promises and purposes will be realized.

**The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all  
our needs!**

**Second reading Romans 8: 35, 37-39**

**God's Everlasting Love**

Paul asks for a response to a question that has none. Some realities are so awe inspiring that the only proper response is silence. "**Who can be against us?**" would have many answers. But Paul's question is **if God is for us, who can be against us?** Anyone able to take away salvation would have to be greater than God. Paul is not talking about one's love for Christ when he speaks of the **love of Christ but of**

**Christ's love for people. Christ's love is a safeguard against the difficulties of life. None of the seven: tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, sword; threats Paul lists can separate believers from God.**

**More than conquerors** is translated from 'hupernikomen' (Grk.); Nike means "to overcome". Huper means "over and above." Together they mean "over and above victory." Believers are super conquerors! Paul knows God's truth, but because he has also experienced most of what he is writing, he says with confidence that nothing can separate him from God's love.

**Gospel Matthew 14: 13-21**

**Feeding the Five Thousand**

When Jesus heard about Herod's estimation of His ministry and the death of John the Baptist, He withdrew to be by Himself.

The call to extend godly compassion does not depend on circumstances, Jesus had just lost His beloved cousin, the Jewish leaders were plotting against Him, and He knew what lay ahead in Jerusalem. Yet **moved with compassion**, He stopped to meet the needs of the crowd, **healing their sick**.

The disciples had no food with which to feed the hungry crowd, but Jesus told them to **give them something to eat**. God often gives His children tasks they cannot complete with their own strength. The loaves and fish, which seemed insufficient from a human perspective, were more than enough for Jesus to feed the crowd. With 12 baskets left over, Jesus may have been signaling that this feast was Israel's –a basket for every tribe.

Jesus was clearly in control, giving instruction as to how the situation would be resolved. He commanded, took, blessed and broke and gave the loaves.

Some scholars claim this is a reference to Communion, but the evidence does not support this interpretation. Jesus does not institute the ordinance of Communion until the Last Supper, using the elements of wine and bread, not fish and bread.

Matthew emphasizes abundance of the meal: **they all ate and were filled**.

Although this story is usually titled "The Feeding of the 5,000" the Bible says that the crowd included about 5,000 men, **besides women and children**. The actual number of people fed may have been closer to 20,000.

**The important thing is the open heart.  
The important thing is the trusting heart.  
The important thing is the believing heart.  
The important thing is the loving heart.**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

By request or appointment

**For Pregnancy Support:**

Birthright 241-8444 or 800-550-4900

**Mass Intentions August 1- 7**

**Saturday 5:00 p.m. The Oliver Family**

**Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Leslie R. Olsen**

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. + Constantino Silva

Thursday 9:00 a.m. The Oliver Family

Friday 9:00 a.m. + Brian Donnelly

**Women's Club/Prayer Group**

We meet the 4th Wednesday of each month from 1 to 2:30 pm. **August 26<sup>th</sup>!**

Our focus is social and spiritual at the same time.

**ROSARY! We pray the Rosary together in your home and church for the families and country!**

**Stewardship of Treasury**

**Report Sunday July 25 & 26, 2020**

**Total \$ 1,209.00**

**Second Collection Maintenance \$461.00**

**Please Consider Electronic Funds  
Transfer (EFT) for your ongoing giving to  
Christ Child. It is a safe, convenient, and  
efficient way to give to our Parish. Contact  
Rosanna Kennedy to sign up...  
[rosanna.kennedy@yahoo.com](mailto:rosanna.kennedy@yahoo.com)**

**Congratulations to the children Alina  
Valentina Lopez & Damian Andres Solis  
for your First Communion last Sunday.  
Thank you to the Parents and Chris & Herb  
Curran who were the teachers!**

**Homily of Pope Francis**

The Responsorial Psalm invites us always to seek the Lord's face: "**Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually**" (Psalm 105:4). This quest is fundamental for the life of every believer, for we have come to realize that our ultimate goal in life is the encounter with God.

To seek the face of God is an assurance that our journey through this world will and well. It is an exodus towards the Promised Land, our heavenly home. The face of God is our destination and guiding star helps us not to lose our way...

Our efforts to seek the face of God are born of the desire for an encounter with the Lord, a personal encounter, an encounter with his immense love, with his saving power...

The personal encounter with the Lord, a time of grace and salvation, entails a mission: "as you go", Jesus tells us, proclaim the good news: "The kingdom of heaven is at hand". Encounter and mission must not be separated. The kind of personal encounter with Jesus Christ is possible also for us, who are the disciples of the third millennium. In our effort to seek the Lord's face, we can recognize him in the face of the poor, the sick, the abandoned, and the foreigners whom God places on our way...

May the Virgin Mary help us discover the face of her Son in all our brothers and sisters forced to flee their homeland because of the many injustices that continue to afflict our world.