

iCare Mass July 24, 2021 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

FIRST READING: 2 Kings 4:42–44

A reading from the second book of Kings

One day a man from the town of Baal Shalishah came with some food for Elisha. The man brought him twenty loaves of barley bread that had been made from the first crop of grain.

He also brought some fresh heads of grain. Elisha told his servant, "Let the people have it to eat." His servant replied, "This isn't enough to feed a hundred people." But Elisha told him, "Give the food to the people! The Lord has said that when they are through eating, there will be some left over."

The servant gave them the food. And when they had finished eating, there was some left over, just as the Lord had promised.

The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Psalm 145:10–11, 15–16*

All: You open your hand to feed us, Lord; you answer all our needs.

All creation will thank you, and your loyal people will praise you. They will tell about your marvelous kingdom and your power.

All: You open your hand to feed us, Lord; you answer all our needs.

Everyone depends on you, and when the time is right, you provide them with food. By your own hand you satisfy the desires of all who live.

All: You open your hand to feed us, Lord; you answer all our needs.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 4:1–6

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters:

As a prisoner of the Lord, I beg you to live in a way that is worthy of the people God has chosen to be his own.

Always be humble and gentle. Patiently put up with each other and love each other. Try your best to let God's Spirit keep your hearts united. Do this by living at peace. All of you are part of the same body. There is only one Spirit of God, just as you were given one hope when you were chosen to be God's people. We have only one Lord, one faith, and one baptism. There is one God who is the Father of all people. Not only is God above all others, but he works by using all of us, and he lives in all of us.

The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

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GOSPEL: John 6:1–15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus crossed Lake Galilee, which was also known as Lake Tiberias. A large crowd had seen him work miracles to heal the sick, and those people went with him. It was almost time for the Jewish festival of Passover, and Jesus went up on a mountain with his disciples and sat down.

When Jesus saw the large crowd coming toward him, he asked Philip, "Where will we get enough food to feed all these people?" He said this to test Philip, since he already knew what he was going to do. Philip answered, "Don't you know that it would take almost a year's wages just to buy only a little bread for each of these people?" Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the disciples.

He spoke up and said, "There is a boy here who has five small loaves of barley bread and two fish. But what good is that with all these people?"

The ground was covered with grass, and Jesus told his disciples to have everyone sit down. About five thousand men were in the crowd. Jesus took the bread in his hands and gave thanks to God. Then he passed the bread to the people, and he did the same with the fish, until everyone had plenty to eat. The people ate all they wanted, and Jesus told his disciples to gather up the leftovers, so that nothing would be wasted. The disciples gathered them up and filled

twelve large baskets with what was left over from the five barley loaves.

After the people had seen Jesus work this miracle, they began saying, "This must be the Prophet who is to come into the world!"

Jesus realized that they would try to force him to be their king. So he went up on a mountain, where he could be alone.

The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to You, Lord, Jesus Christ.