

# Saint Boniface Parish

## Faith Formation Handout – Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>

### Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### **Matthew 14:13-21**

When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. The crowds heard of this and followed him on foot from their towns. When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples approached him and said, "This is a deserted place and it is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves." But they said to him, "Five loaves and two fish are all we have here." Then he said, "Bring them here to me," and he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over—twelve wicker baskets full. Those who ate were about five thousand men, not counting women and children.



## When in my life has Jesus provided what I don't have?

#### **First Grade**

How are you are sharing your things with others? Sharing can be difficult because we think someone will break our stuff or not give it back. When was a time that you didn't want to share? However, sharing our things makes others happy and helps us to be more generous. When was a times that you shared something, and it made everyone happy?

#### **Second Grade**

God gives us what we need in a variety of ways, such as through others and by giving us gifts and talents. What are some of the gifts and talents that God has provided for you? However, the most powerful way is through the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist and Confession. When you receive the Eucharist do you ask God for help? How has He helped you?

#### **Third and Fourth Grades**

Sometimes, people are scared because they think that they have to do everything on their own. When was a time that you didn't want to ask someone else for help? Who are people in your life that will help you when you need it? List at least ten people. When we need help, God gives us what we need through other people. How do you trust and help others?

#### **Fifth and Sixth Grades**

Sometimes we want to help others but are not sure how to. When was a time that you wanted to help someone, but didn't think you could or were not sure how to? What did you do? In these times, we should ask God for help. He will give us what we need to help them and ourselves. What can you say to God to ask Him for help?

#### **Seventh and Eighth Grades**

God does not want us to judge ourselves by comparing ourselves to others and thinking about what we can't do. Rather, look at the gifts God has given you and continues to give you, and how you are using them. What gifts had God given you? Don't think just about skills that others have. How have you used these gifts to serve others?

#### **High School and Adults**

This theme may make us think immediately about all the things we want that we don't have. However, it is more about what we can give to others. What is something that you have done or wish you could do for another person? How is God helping you to do that? What gifts has He given you that you have used to help others?

# For this Week...

We are Catholic always and in everything we do. Throughout the week bring your faith into your school, your work, your play and your family. Here are some ideas for you.

## Monday

This week's theme is not about getting what we want, but about using what we have been given to serve others. God provides us with all we need for the good of ourselves and others. Today, make a list of three people that you will help this week. Next to each person, list how you will help them and what you will need to do so. Ask God for help!

## Tuesday

God often desires different things for people than we do. Today, take your list of people that you are going to help and look at how you want to help them. Write down things that you can do for them. Think about if these things are your desire for them or what God wants. Ask God how He wants you to help them and edit your list if you need to.

## Wednesday

When we have a task to do, we often think of how we are going to solve it, usually on our own. Rather, we should be asking God to help, because he is all-powerful and will do most of the work, including the things that we cannot do. Today, take time out of your week and take time to pray, asking God to help the person who you want to help this week.

## Thursday

Sometimes, the greatest gift that we can give a person is our time, but even that we feel that we can't give because we are so busy. Today, stop and ask God to help you with your schedule for today and the rest of the week. Ask Him to help you to better prioritize all of the things that you are doing so that you will have time for prayer and others.

## Friday

God is very generous. He desires to help us much more than we desire to ask for His help. He loves us and cares about every part of our lives. Today, talk with Him about how things are going – what is good and what is not – and ask Him for help. Then, throughout the day, pay attention to how He is answering your prayers and helping you.

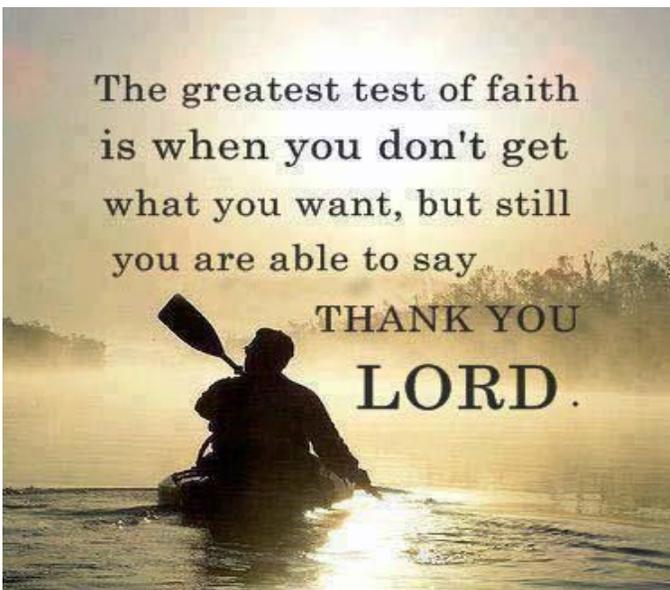
## Saturday

Sometimes we have a plan of how we are going to help someone, but in the end, it worked out very different than the way we planned. Today, look back at your list of people that you wanted to help. Did you help them in the way you planned or another way? What gifts and talents did God supply you with that allows you to help them?

## FROM THE CATECHISM...

Jesus asks for childlike abandonment to the providence of our heavenly Father who takes care of His children's smallest needs: 'Therefore do not be anxious saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?'. ...Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well.'

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 305



## Next Week's Readings

Here are the readings for next Sunday so that on Saturday you can read through them. If you take a few minutes to read them and prepare, you will get a lot more from Mass. They are available online at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org). Use the calendar on the right.

**1 Kings 19:9a,11-13a Psalm 85:9,10,11-12,13-14 Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:22-33**

This handout was created by the Lynn Catholic Collaborative. For more info on how to use at your parish please email [admin@lynnatholic.org](mailto:admin@lynnatholic.org)