

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 25, 2021

A Mediation – published by The Word Among Us!

Gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted. (John 6:12)

In John's telling of the miracle of the loaves and fishes, Jesus says very little. Out of a story that is 310 words long, Jesus speaks only 25! But there is a whole world of meaning behind each word.

First, Jesus sets the miracle in motion with a practical question: "Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?" (John 6:5). Jesus knows what he is going to do, but he wants to prompt Philip and the other disciples to expand their expectations. He is pointing out a situation that is humanly impossible to solve so that they will begin to consider other, more divinely inspired options.

Next, he prepares everyone to receive the miracle he is about to perform: "Have the people recline" (John 6:10). They don't have to do much—just take a position of rest and trust. Of course, that may not be easy when you're hungry and you can't see any food readily available. But that's the way it is with the Lord: sometimes he asks you to rest and trust in his provision, even when you can't see any possible hope of a way out.

Finally, he brings the miracle to a close: "Gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted" (John 6:12). Jesus is generous—exceedingly generous—but he is not wasteful. A lot was left over, and Jesus wanted to make sure it went to good use. These baskets of food—one for each apostle—were his way of telling us to be equally generous in sharing his blessings. Every gift he gives is meant not just for us; it's meant to shape how we speak and act so that we can become stronger witnesses to his love.

Like manna from heaven, Jesus' grace is always showering down on us. May we learn how to receive it and always be ready to offer it to the people around us!

*"Thank you, Jesus, for always giving me what I need!
Please show me how to share your blessings with everyone else."*

Pray for the Sick

LaVerne Agnew, Brian Argusta, Vivian Burgess, Brownie Cain, Alberto Casanova, Kathleen Charles, Christopher Chestnut, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Edward Cousin, Cynthia Cyrus, Juanita Davis, Carolyn Didney, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Cynthia Fortier, Michael Frierson, Sherie Frierson-Chenier, Brenda Garibaldi, Avis Gibbs, Barbara Harris, Darren Harris, Jennifer Hallman, Marjorie Jones, Briana Katz, Barbara Lagarde, Irwin Lagarde, Mercedes LeBlanc, Jo Ann Levi, Vylfred Manor, Cheryl Santa Marina, Dorothy Okoye, Tyrone Pitts, Sally Price, Wiley Pugh, Andrea Raggette, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Mike Simon, Joan Spencer, Annie Starks, Leila Thomas, Iris Turner, Mabel Walton, William Warrior, Alice Williams, Peggy Wilson and Mechele Yerima.

Weekly Offering for July 18, 2021

\$6,875.00 Tithe and Offering



Stewardship

"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?" JOHN 6:9

The miracle of the Loaves and Fishes carries two important messages. First, no matter how little we have, we always have enough to share. Second, Christ can take our humble gifts and do great things with them if we are just willing to let Him. Nothing is impossible with God. All of our gifts, big or small, were given to us for a reason. No gift is too small or insignificant!

NATIONAL NEEDS COMBINED OFFERING

July 25, 2021 at all Masses
Please be as generous as possible.

Religious Education

For students from Kindergarten to High School will begin September 12, 2021. It will include: First Communion, Confirmation, the study of scripture, the study and celebration of Liturgy and the Liturgical seasons. Registration will take place every Sunday in August after the 8AM and 10AM Masses outside in the patio. More information will be given at registration.

Bar B Que!!!

The Knights of Peter Claver, Council 20 will have a Bar B Que on Saturday, July 31, 2021 from 12:30PM to 5:30PM. It will take place under the Hall Patio. Proceeds will help the Maurice S. Simon Scholarship Fund. Dinners are \$12.00 (1 meat) and \$15.00 combinations (2 meats) with 2 sides, potato salad and baked beans. The Ladies Auxiliary also will provide their delicious desserts.

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday	2 Kgs 4:42-44, Ps 145:10-18, Jn 6:1-15
Monday	Ex 32:15-34, Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday	Ex 33:7-11, 34:5b-28, Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday	Ex 34:29-35, Mt 13:44-46
Thursday	Ex 40:16-38, Jn 11:19-27
Friday	Lv 23:1-37, Mt 13:54-58
Saturday	Lv 25:1-17, Mt 14:1-12
Sunday	Ex 16:2-15, Ps 78:3-54, Jn 6:24-35

Did you know?

Understanding the need for "likes"

Children and teenagers are spending more and more time connecting with their friends on social media. Research shows that people are hardwired to find social interaction and communication rewarding, and on social media, rewards come in the form of "likes." Although apps like Instagram have recently moved to change how "likes" are seen on photos and videos, the drive to post something "likeable" is still there, and many users may feel the need to test boundaries to drive them up. It's important for parents to understand the enticing nature of these apps, and to talk to their children and teens about internet safety and social media use.

For more information,

visit <https://www.missingkids.org/content/ncmec/en/blog/2020/love-of-likes.html>

Thank you

The beautiful flowers on the altar this week were donated by those who participated in the reopening cleaning of the church. If you would like to donate flowers, please call the rectory for more details.

Reopening Team

Thank you to those who went over and beyond to reopen the church this past weekend especially, Madge Alston, Jo Baker, Rosemary Campbell, Magna Gibbs, Carol James, Barbara Johnson, Angel Reyes, Yulianna Reyes, Cynthia Richardson, Cheyenne Wesley for cleaning the church; Mable Simon, Ida Wycliff for the Church Environment; Felecia Johns and Liz Quinn staff volunteers. Thank you again.