

# Sunday Connection



## Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle B

Sunday, July 25, 2021

### First Reading

*2 Kings 4:42-44*

Elisha the prophet feeds 100 people with 20 barley loaves.

### Responsorial Psalm

*Psalm 145:10-11,15-16,17-18*

The Lord feeds his people and answers their needs.

### Second Reading

*Ephesians 4:1-6*

The Ephesians are encouraged to live the unity of their Baptism.

### Gospel Reading

*John 6:1-15*

Jesus feeds the crowd of more than five thousand people with five barley loaves and two fish.

### Family Connection

Parents may sympathize with the disciples' protests when Jesus asks Philip where food might be found for the crowd. In the responses of both Philip and Andrew, we hear feelings of inadequacy as they survey their limited resources in the face of such great need. We may sometimes share these feelings about our own material possessions or our emotional and spiritual resources in the face of our family's needs. This is a Gospel of hope for these times, which are all too frequent in parenting and family life. As Jesus made the five barley loaves and two fish sufficient to more than meet the needs of over five thousand people, Jesus will also work with what we have to provide for our family's needs. When we offer our efforts to God, we ask him to transform them so that they will be more than adequate to the tasks and needs before us. As you gather as a family, talk together about the things that your family needs, starting with the basics—food, shelter, safety, and so on. Continue by naming other things that a family needs to be happy and healthy—time together, cooperation, patience, and so on. Observe that sometimes we can feel like we don't have enough of the things that we need or want. Read together today's Gospel, John 6:1-15. Talk about how Jesus provided plenty of food for the crowd with just five barley loaves and two fish. We have faith that Jesus will also take what we have and make it enough to satisfy and fill all our needs. We ask for this blessing when we offer to God the work of each day in prayer in the Morning Offering. Pray together the Morning Offering, asking God to bless and make fruitful the work of each of our days.