

Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

05 AUGUST 2018

'I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE'

Today's Gospel marks the beginning of a long interaction between Jesus and the Jewish crowd that draws out the deeper meaning of the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves that we heard last Sunday.

After the miracle the crowds follow Jesus with enthusiasm but he is dubious about their motivation. They follow him because they have been so marvellously fed, not because they have seen that event's real meaning. They have not seen it for what it really is: a sign of the presence in their midst of One who is the final gift and revelation of God.

The crowds are trying to understand Jesus within the categories of what they know from the scriptural story of their people. Moses, in their view, arranged for their ancestors to be fed in the wilderness with 'bread from heaven' (the manna). They think of Jesus as a new Moses who may turn on for them a continual supply of 'from heaven', just as Moses did of old.

Jesus corrects them. They must not be fixated on a repetition of what happened long ago. They must understand that God (the Father) is here and now giving them a Bread from heaven that, unlike the manna of old, will not last for just a day, but will sustain them for eternal life.

Jesus is, of course, as he makes clear at the end, speaking himself as this Bread: 'the bread of God ... that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world'.

In what sense is Jesus for me my daily 'Bread of Life'?



Brendan Byrne, SJ

they found him on the other side, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat.

Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life, the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you,

for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.'

Then they said to him, 'What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?' Jesus gave them this answer, 'This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.' So they said, 'What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'

Jesus answered:
'I tell you most solemnly, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven,

it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven, the true bread; for the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.'

'Sir,' they said 'give us that bread always.'

Jesus answered:
'I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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FIRST READING

Ex 16: 2-4, 12-15

A reading from the book of Exodus.

I will rain bread from heaven upon you.

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, 'Why did we not die at the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our heart's content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day's portion; I propose to test them in this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.'

'I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, "Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your heart's content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God."' And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, 'What is that?' not knowing what it was. 'That' said Moses to them 'is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 77: 3-4, 23-25, 54. R. v. 24

R. The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

1. The things we have heard and understood, / the things our fathers have told us, / we will tell to the next generation: / the glories of the Lord and his might. **R.**

2. He commanded the clouds above / and opened the gates of heaven. / He rained down manna for their food, / and gave them bread from heaven. **R.**



3. Mere men ate the bread of angels. / He sent them abundance of food. / He brought them to his holy land, / to the mountain which his right hand had won. **R.**

SECOND READING

Eph 4: 17, 20-24

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

Put on the new person that has been created in God's image.

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusive desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4: 4

Alleluia, alleluia! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 6: 24-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never thirst.

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When

Under the Pastoral Care of AUGUSTINIANS

- ▶ Fr Michael Sullivan OSA: Parish Priest
Mobile: 0434 674822
- ▶ Fr Abel van der Veer OSA
Mobile: 0409 368449
- ▶ Fr Gerald Dullard OSA
- ▶ Fr Percival Severe OSA



ADMINISTRATION

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE
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CHILDRENS' LITURGY

St. Joseph's • 10.30am Mass
 First & third Sundays of the month
 (except school holidays and long weekends)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Joseph's • Sat: 5.15pm – 5.45pm
 (or by request)

ANointing / HEALING MASS

First Tuesday of the month 10am at
 St Joseph's Church
*(Senior parishioners, those with ongoing
 sickness, those with mental illness, may all
 receive the Sacrament of the Sick)*

Pastoral Associates and Administrative Support

- ▶ Toni Stuart (Secretary & Weddings: Tues/Thurs/Fri)
- ▶ Yvonne Bolland (Weddings: Tues 10am-12noon)
- ▶ Emilie Rousset (Business Manager: Tues/Wed/Thurs)
- ▶ Diane Brebner (Alfred Hospital Liaison)
- ▶ Richard Anderson (Accountant)

Parish Mass Times for the week commencing weekend 5th August 2018

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Sunday 5th August 18 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	(Saturday- Vigil 6pm) 10.30am Mass Children's Liturgy	9.00am Mass
Monday 6 th August Transfiguration of the Lord	7.00pm Ecumenical Liturgy	
Tuesday 7 th August St Ignatius of Loyola	10.00am Mass Anointing/Healing Mass	12.45pm Communion Service
Wednesday 8 th August St Mary of the Cross	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Thursday 9 th August	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Communion Service
Friday 10 th August St Lawrence	10.00am Mass 10.30am Christian Meditation	12.45pm Mass
Saturday 11 th August St Clare	9.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass	

ENROLMENTS FOR SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in on Sunday 16th September. If you wish your child to receive this Sacrament please enrol by contacting the parish office. Preparation classes will be held in the 4 weeks prior to the Confirmation Mass

CHILDREN'S LITURGY This Sunday 5 August and Sunday 19 August during the 10.30 am Mass at St. Joseph's Church. All children very welcome!

ANointing/HEALING MASS Tuesday 7th August at St Joseph's 10am Mass. Senior parishioners, those who are sick, those with mental illness may all receive the Sacrament of the Sick. All welcome.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- ▶ **Praise & Worship:** Sun 5th August 6.30pm in St Joseph's church followed by coffee & cake.
- ▶ **Ecumenical Liturgy:** Mon 6 Aug 7pm St Joseph's
- ▶ **Parish Council:** Wed 8 Aug 7.30pm



PRAYER REFLECTION FROM ST AUGUSTINE

"God is always trying to give good things to us, but our hands are too full to receive them."

ECUMENICAL LITURGY

This Monday 6th August 2018 – Ecumenical Mass in St. Joseph's Church at 7 pm. All are welcome to join us in hosting this Annual Ecumenical Gathering which will be followed by a light supper with fellow Christians from Christ Church (South Yarra), Baptist Community Church (South Yarra) and St. Martin's (Hawksburn).

CONGRATULATIONS!

We offer our congratulations to Clare Taylor who last Thursday night at the Stonnington City Hall was presented with the Higgins Community Service Award for her volunteer work with SJOS in our parish.

PARISH BAPTISMS We welcome the family and friends of Matilda Patricia Goll who is to be Baptised in St Joseph's this weekend.

WELCOME We welcome baby Harry Slade who is to be presented to our community at the 9am Mass in St Thomas Aquinas Church.

YAM (YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY) YOUTH MASS AND FAITH FORMATION

Following the 6pm Young Adult Ministry's mass next Saturday 11 August, we are having our next **Faith Formation YAM event** - starting at 7pm with fellowship over dinner, followed by learning and sharing more about our faith with each other. Please also bring \$5 to cover dinner costs.

CATHOLIC CARE APPEAL Next weekend we will have an appeal for Catholic Care. Envelopes will be available at the entrance to the church.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

June Cochrane, Des White, Beb Larsen, Chaiel Balcombe, John & Rose Ignace, Ronald Seaman, Aristotle Pamintuan, Therese Phillips, Mitos Gludemans, Meldred Liba Lagahit, Socorro Severe, Dolores Hogan, Frank Muratore, Maurice Wallin, Alex Wallsz, Margaret Greene, Elaine Dennis, Spiros Layla, Emma Kirk, Chris 'Smith', Jean de Campo, Jacinta Severe, Gus Carter, Socrates Baroutas, Anne Rigg, Tony McNamara, Sergio Fassio, Anthony Alfred, Brendan Taylor, Djohan Gunarta Kurniawan, Mary Gaynor

IN LOVING MEMORY



Anniversaries

- ✦ Jonathan Crawford
- ✦ Jan Zatorski
- ✦ Mea Camille
- ✦ Dorothy Craig
- ✦ Mary Rowe
- ✦ Geoff Macpherson
- ✦ Maria Jablonski
- ✦ Marie Doyle
- ✦ Karel & Elfrida Kral
- ✦ May McKenzie
- ✦ Shirley Addinsall
- ✦ Georgia Foran

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK: 5-12 AUGUST

Because we are made in the Image of God, all of us are called by God to become a person who reflects the mercy and love of God in our daily lives. Within God's call to discipleship as Christians, which each of us has received through Baptism, some women and men are also called to special leadership and service in the Church community as religious and priests.

The Augustinians have been giving leadership and service in the Church of Australia since 1838 when Fr. James Goold OSA arrived to give pastoral assistance to the small community of Catholics in Sydney. In 1848, he became the first bishop and later first archbishop of Melbourne, where for the next 38 years, together with a small number of priests and religious, he served the growing Catholic Church of Victoria.

For 180 years, the Augustinians have given generous service to the Church in Australia in the dioceses of Melbourne, Bendigo, Cairns, Brisbane, Sydney, Newcastle, Paramatta and Broken Bay. Australian members of the Augustinian Australasian Province have also served and continue to serve the Church in South Korea and Thailand. Next year we will begin with a new community and apostolate in Vietnam.

During National Vocations Awareness Week, we ask that you our parishioners of South Yarra pray for us, that the Holy Spirit may inspire idealistic, generous Christian men to join our community so that we may continue to serve the Church through our various ministries in Australia and the Asia-Pacific.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS 29/07/18

Thanking you for your continuing support!
 Please contact the parish office if you wish to contribute via Direct Debit or Credit Card

- 1st Collection (Clergy/Priory a/c) \$ 827.80
- 2nd Coll. (Planned Giving Church a/c) \$477.00
- 2nd Coll. (Loose Money Church a/c)..... \$481.40