

When we come together today, as we do each Sunday, we receive the Lord—the Bread of Life—in the Eucharist. He satisfies our hunger, be it material or spiritual. When we receive the Lord, in the Eucharist and into our hearts, he brings fullness, mission, God's grace, and the promise of everlasting life into our poor, imperfect, and needy human lives. He enables us to "put away the old self" and "put on the new self." Joined together with our brothers and sisters in faith, let us celebrate the generosity of our Lord.

# PASTORAL MUSINGS From the desk of Fr. Tom

Mother Theresa of Calcutta now St. Theresa, had great devotion to Jesus, the bread of life. She said, "Jesus has made himself bread of life to give us life eternal. Night and Day He is there. If you want to grow in love and live life fully, come back to Eucharist with pure intention and full attention. He will make your heart sing with divine praises. Come back to that loving adoration". During the month of August, Gospels of John presents the "bread of life" discourse". Jesus said, "I am the bread of life; who ever comes to me will never hunger; and who ever believes in my will never thirst" John 6:35). If we take Jesus words seriously, the question is why do still we feel spiritual hunger and thirst? While Jesus offers himself fully in the Eucharist as Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity, we may not be surrendering fully to the Lord in deeper communion and perhaps we are holding back certain areas of life that gives us temporary gratification and while making us spiritually empty and thirsty.

Pope Francis noted, "Eucharist is Jesus Himself who gives himself entirely to us. Nourishing ourselves of that "Bread of Life" means enter into harmony with the heart of Christ assimilating his choices, His thoughts, His behavior. It means entering into a dynamism of love and becoming people of peace, {people of Joy}, people of forgiveness, of reconciliation, of sharing in solidarity {with the poor and hungry}. "There are people in the world so hungry that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread" (Gandhi). That is receiving Christ in communion strengthen us to care for people in their need and become bread of life to them.

As the youth breaks new records in Olympics these in Tokyo marching "Faster, higher and stronger" let our spiritual life move faster, rise higher and grow stronger with Jesus, the bread of life.

Peace and Blessings!

Fr.Tom



#### **First Reading**

Exodus 16:2–4, 12–15
The Lord feeds the Israelites with manna.

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 78:3–4, 23–24, 25, 54 A song of praise to God for his deeds to Israel.

#### **Second Reading**

Ephesians 4:17, 20–24 Christians become a new creation in Christ.

#### **Gospel Reading**

John 6:24-35

Jesus teaches the crowds that he is the "bread of life."

#### Background on the Gospel Reading

This Sunday we continue to read from the sixth chapter of John's Gospel, but not continuously. Our Lectionary omits John's report of Jesus' walking on water. This event is reported much less dramatically in John's Gospel than in the Synoptic Gospels. After the feeding of the multitudes, the disciples leave in a boat and Jesus follows them. The disciples are said to be terrified by what they see. Jesus reassures them and rejoins them. In today's Gospel, we learn that the crowd has noticed the departure of Jesus and his disciples and so seeks them out in Capernaum. In the dialogue that follows between Jesus and the crowds, Jesus unfolds for us the gift of himself that that he gives in the Eucharist.

In today's Gospel, there are four exchanges between Jesus and the crowd. In the first, the crowd, having followed Jesus to Capernaum, asks a very matter of fact question: "Rabbi, when did you get here?" Jesus replies by naming their motivation in pursuing him. They have been fed. Jesus acknowledges this, yet challenges them to see beyond the fulfillment of their material needs. The crowds have followed Jesus because they have been fed. They ought to be seeking out Jesus

As the second dialogue begins, it seems that the crowd might be on their way to accepting Jesus and his mission. They ask: "What can we do to accomplish the works of God?" Jesus replies that they must have faith in the one sent from God. But in the third dialogue, the crowd reveals their inability to see Jesus' true identity. They ask Jesus for a sign so that they might know that Jesus is from God. How strange this sounds since Jesus has just fed more than 5000 people. What more is expected?

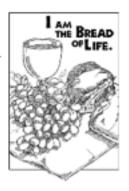
But the crowd cannot see beyond the surface of the sign. They show this in their interpretation of the sign that came from Moses. In their description, they identify Jesus with Moses, as if to say, as Moses gave the people manna in the desert, give us a sign so that we will know that you are from God. They are looking to identify a prophet without realizing that God is standing before them. Jesus corrects their misinterpretation, saying that the manna received by their ancestors came from God. As God fulfilled their ancestors' needs in the desert, so God has provided them with food for eternal life. In the bread that they have received from Jesus, they have received physical nourishment and also spiritual nourishment. Jesus wants the crowd to see beyond the surface to the One who provides true nourishment.

The conclusion of the dialogue reveals the crowd's blindness. They ask for what Jesus has just told them they have found: "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus answers plainly that he himself is the Bread of Life they seek. Jesus himself is the Bread of Life who will satisfy every hunger and thirst. This is the first of several such statements found in John's Gospel. We understand these better when we remember that God revealed his name to the people of Israel as "I am," as Yahweh. Jesus is now claiming this name for himself. In the weeks ahead, we will see the offense that this gives to the people.

## Looking for a Sign

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty. John 6:35 (NIV)

Based on John 6:24-35 (NIV)



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| LIFE    | HEAVEN  | LOAVES  | TRUTH  | FATHER |
|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| ETERNAL | TRUE    | MANNA   | DESERT | MOSES  |
| SIGNS   | FILL    | THIRSTY | LAKE   | BREAD  |
| RABBI   | BELIEVE | LIFE    | HUNGRY | FOOD   |



Be sure and shop our 'Farmer Market' downstairs in the basement.

Enjoy fresh grown vegetables and fruit from the garden. All proceeds go to the Children's fund.

**Percival's Cow Pie Bingo** 

fundraiser is back after the flood of '19 and the pandemic! Tickets/chances are \$10 each. If the cow 💩 on your square you win BIG \$! Chances to win \$150/\$250/\$500! I'll have tickets with me today if you are interested in purchasing a lucky ticket. Purchase one for you and one for St. Mary's:) If the St. Mary's ticket wins, it could go towards the new building fund!!! Proceeds go to Percival community improvement projects.







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#### " Hi everyone!

This year at the University of Iowa I will be participating in Dance Marathon for the second year. Dance Marathon is the largest student organization at the University of Iowa and is a yearround fundraiser supporting, celebrating, and remembering the families and children who are and have fought against cancer. My goal for this fundraiser is \$500.00 and allows me to participate in a dance marathon: dancing for 24 hours, For the Kids. In the past year, we raised close to 1.5 million dollars despite COVID-19. If you would like to donate please reach out to Dan and/or Lori Goodman! Thank you all so much!

With Love, Cara Goodman

#### Daily readings for the week of 8-1-21

**Sunday:** Ex 16:2-4, 12-15/Ps 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54 [24b]/Eph 4:17, 20-24/Jn 6:24-35

Monday: Nm 11:4b-15/Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [2a]/Mt 14:13-21

**Tuesday:** Nm 12:1-13/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13 [cf. 3a]/Mt 14:22-36 or

Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Nm 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26-29a, 34-35/Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23 [4a]/

Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: Nm 20:1-13/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Mt 16:13-23

Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 [1a and 9a]/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mk 9:2-10

**Saturday:** Dn 6:4-13/Ps 18: 28, 3-4. 47 and 51/Mk 17:14-20

Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:4-8/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [9a]/Eph 4:30—5:2/Jn 6:41-51

## ST. MARYS HAPPENINGS

#### PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

CHRIS HINES
JOSH SIMMONS
JACOB ANDERSON
DERRICK HUBARD
STEVEN ANDERSON
COLBY MCGINLEY

### Your Contributions

July 25, 2021

Tithes—\$1992.00 Plate—\$41.00 Children's July Coll. \$8.00

Thank You!!

"The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotto out up with the rain."

-DOLLY PARTON-



- 8-5----Robbie Travis
- 8-6—-Audrey Goodman
- 8-10—Luke Sheldon
- 8-11—Alisha Ettleman
- 8-14—Scott Mayberry
- 8-14—Joe Hirner



7-26—Joe & Robbie Travis

8-5—Pat & Angie Sheldon

8-16—Vince & Susan Hilton

8-30—Mike & Kathy Moody



Greg Andersen **Grady Secht** Reese Kemp LeRov Herscheid Mary Lou Miller Dottie Dankof Isacc Durr Todd Quick Verona Mitchell Joel Loggins Kenneth Russell Bill Long Henry Johnsen Lawrence DuBois Pat Sheldon Joe Kirk Tim Konecny Esther McCowan Shawn Collins **Drake Travis** Martha Gude Bill &Gloria Green Larry Dalton Zavne Osborn Cathy Mason Anna Weber Alan Briggs Dee Ann Crews Robert Haughton Maurie Maher Janet Rummel Jennifer McAllister Dave Zavadil

| 2021   | August 1 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30 | August 8 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30                              | August 15 Assumption of the Blessed virgin Mary 8:30 | August 22<br>21st Sunday<br>of Ordinary<br>Time<br>8:30                | August 29 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time 8:30 |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| Lector   | Teresa Jamison                             | Dave Dowling  | Scott Mayberry                                       | Linda Dewhirst   | Carolyn Maher                               |
| Mass Setup   | Joe  | Rosie   | Joe  | Rosie  | Joe   |
| Cantor   | Kate/<br>Margaret                          | Beth  | Kim & sons   | Kate/<br>Margaret  | Beth/Anna                                   |
| Accompanist  | Kate                                       | Donna   | Donna  | Nancy  | Guitars                                     |
| Server   | Evan Laumann                               | JJ Hirner   | Tate Mount   | Isaac Hutt   | Mia Foster                                  |
| Usher and<br>Greeter   | Joe & Robbi<br>Travis                      | Jim & Cheryl<br>Owen  | Marty &<br>Carolyn Maher                             | Denny & Joella<br>Travis   | Dan & Lori<br>Goodman                       |
| Coffee & donuts  | Vince & Susan<br>Hilton                    | N/A   | Dave & Kate<br>Roberts                               | Jeff & Lisa<br>Phillips  | Terry & Kim<br>Travis                       |
| PASTOR   |  | PASTORAL ASSISTANT  |  | Воок   | KEEPER                                      |
| Fr. TomThakadipuram 712-246-1718 Shen(office) 712-382-4316 (Hamburg) |  | Cheryl Phillips 712.382.2668 (h) 712-350-0169 (c) cheryljphil@gmail.com |  | Anne Hendrickson<br>Bookkeeper<br>712.382.2432 (h)<br>712.350.0368 (c) |   |

### **Inspiration for August 1**

Before undertaking a task great or small, before making decisions, before beginning a journey, the humble will acknowledge their dependence on God and invoke His guidance and His blessing on all their enterprises.