



Have you ever wanted to be part of something bigger? Even the most independent among us likes to make changes and have an impact on others. In this Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus demonstrates one of his

most iconic miracles — the multiplication of the loaves. It is a sign of the institution of the Eucharist, when we are fed not by bread but by the Body of Christ.

In the stories of ancient pagan gods, mighty deeds were done entirely under the gods' own power. Mortals may have offered sacrifices to start the chain of events, but they played little role in the miraculous works themselves. Jesus is entirely different. The multiplication of the loaves is a prime example not only of Jesus' power over nature, but of the way he equips his disciples.

First, Jesus asks Philip a question "to test him." Jesus has seen the crowds and "he himself knew what he was going to do," but he wants his disciples to start thinking about the problem and its solution. Andrew offers a suggestion, though he isn't confident in it. "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?" Jesus honours Andrew's suggestion, takes the offered loaves, and delegates the Apostles to bring order to the crowd. When the crowd has been fed, the Apostles "gather the fragments left over." In the process, they discover with wonder that bread has been produced in super abundance.

In the sacraments, God works through simple matter to make grace real in our lives. He works in and through us as well. Are you facing problems that could have spiritual solutions? Is there a need in your parish or community that you could meet? Whatever our hesitations, Jesus honours our simple loaves and fishes. He invites us to participate in his generous work of redemption, just as we are.

CATHOLIC QUOTES - WORDS TO INSPIRE THE FAITHFUL

*"Go to the Lord very simply.
With the surrender of a small child. "*

- St. Peter Julian Eymard

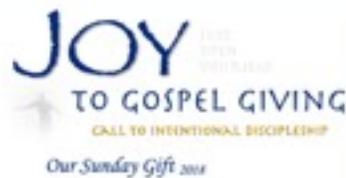
LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Living the Gospel does not require much. In fact, less is sometimes more. Simple gestures or random acts of kindness can have unimaginable results and change lives. It is easy to believe that we do not have what it takes to make a difference, but we do! The key is to learn how to be grateful for the little gifts you possess and share them freely and abundantly. It does not take much to satisfy the hungers of the human heart or mend the wounds of sorrow and pain. All we need to know is that God is with us. All people need to know is that we are with them. God provides the rest. Truly be present to those you meet this week and offer them your most precious gift, the gift of yourself.

KIDS' CORNER

Jesus seemed to be surrounded by crowds a lot, didn't he? That's because no matter where he went, he helped people, he healed them, and he taught them about God. In today's Gospel reading, one crowd was following Jesus all day, and now they were getting hungry for dinner. Instead of sending them back home, Jesus showed everybody's God's amazing power. Jesus took a boy's lunch and made more than enough food for everybody to eat.

Dear God, help me always to remember that you have the power to give us more than we need. Amen.



Thank you to all parishioners who have renewed their Stewardship of Treasure Commitment for 2018.

Sunday's Offertory - July 22, 2018

Pre-Authorized Giving:	\$ 14,000.00
Noah's Buddies / Youth	\$ 1.00
Loose:	\$ 941.75
Votives:	\$ 290.75
<u>Novena Mass</u>	<u>\$ 507.85</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 15,741.35

Our minimum weekly offertory income requirement: \$20,000.00



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