

August 1, 2021

# EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**St. John the Evangelist Church**  
309 Lotz Avenue, Altoona, PA 814-942-5503  
[www.stjohnsaltoona.org](http://www.stjohnsaltoona.org)

### PASTORAL STAFF

Monsignor Michael Becker - mbecker253@aol.com; allinall214@gmail.com  
Deacon Gene Neral - gene@lifeinfocus.net  
Kristina Hoyne - Parish Council President - inaugh@aol.com  
Jena Bowman - Business Manager - stjohchurch@atlanticbb.net  
Deborah Johnson - Director of Music/Pastoral Associate - dj219@msn.com  
Diane Ryan - Faith Formation Coordinator/Secretary - stjohsecretary@atlanticbb.net  
Mark Krepich - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults - mark.krepich@gmail.com  
Ken Dunmire - Maintenance

### NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

#### LECTORS

Sat. Aug. 7 - 4:00 PM - Maria Spayd,  
Susanna Tomlinson  
Sun. Aug. 8 - 8:00 AM - Ginny Reeder,  
Darlene Scarpaci  
Sun. Aug. 8 - 10:00 AM - James Krug, Richard Consiglio

#### ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. Aug. 7 - 4:00 PM - Keaton Swope, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Aug. 8 - 8:00 AM - Mai Linh Do, Nicholas Helsley  
Sun. Aug. 8 - 10:00 AM - Camille Krug,  
Makayla Langenbacher

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. Aug. 7 - 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, David Loth  
Sun. Aug. 8 - 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED  
Sun. Aug. 8 - 10:00 AM - Kenneth Gorman,  
Donna Moyer

#### MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. Aug. 7 - 4:00 PM - Carolyn English, Betsy Lloyd,  
Judy Sneath, Bily Sweet  
Sun. Aug. 8 - 8:00 AM - Mike O'Neill, Ed Stoltz,  
Diane Turcovsky, Daniel Turcovsky  
Sun. Aug. 8 - 10:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan, Peg Madden,  
Wendy Campbell, Dolores Capriotti

#### SACRISTAN

Sat. Aug. 7 - 4:00 PM - Jane Byrne  
Sun. Aug. 8 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci  
Sun. Aug. 8 - 10:00 AM - Barbara Bundy

#### SCRIP

Sat. Aug. 7 - 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Aug. 8 - 8:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Aug. 8 - 10:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph

### August Prayer Intention of Pope Francis *The Church*

Let us pray for the Church, that She may receive  
from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength  
to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.



*The bread of God  
is that which comes down from heaven  
and gives life to the world. John 6:33*

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**THE ATRIUM: A PREPARED ENVIRONMENT** - For some time now we have been discussing the benefits of introducing the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd here at St. John's. What is involved? First, it is a matter of the environment we create for the child. Essential to this catechesis is the creation of an Atrium. The Atrium is a specially designed learning environment where children and adults come together to pray, work, and contemplate the mystery of God and the presence of God in our lives. The atrium is designed to meet the developmental needs of the children and provide a beautiful space to share in the process of discovering the Word of God together. In our situation, the current day chapel is ideal for this "holy place" for our children. "Let the little children come unto me."

**A HUGE THANK YOU** to all who have been a part of planning and preparing for our parish picnic today!

**RENEWAL OF LITURGICAL MINISTRIES** - Now that more of the Faithful are returning to Sunday Mass, it is important for us to renew our commitment to our various liturgical ministries. We will be reaching out to those who have been lectors and Eucharistic ministers, and for those who would like to participate in these important ministries. We also invite you to participate as "Gift Bearers" and as ministers of hospitality. We will be doing an in-pew survey in the next few weeks!

### **INDEPENDENT CATHOLIC FOUNDATION GRANT RECEIVED:**

Our Parish is grateful to the Independent Catholic Foundation in Altoona for a \$1,65600.00 grant to support the Arise Together in Christ program and the cost of our Annual Music Subscription and Licensing to reprint music. The gift was made through the foundation's Impact Grant Program. To learn more about the foundation, you may contact them at (814) 201-2080 or visit the website at [www.icfdaj.org](http://www.icfdaj.org)

### **We're Looking for Catechists and Helpers for the 2021-2022 Faith Formation Year!**

As a catechist, you'll plan and teach small classes throughout the year. You will be provided with numerous resources to help you plan for your lessons such as textbooks, supplemental materials, and online resources. For the safety and protection of our parish children, all of our catechists, substitutes and volunteers are required to be in compliance with the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese Children and Youth Protection Policy.

*If you would like more information, please contact Diane Ryan by emailing [stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net](mailto:stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net) or by calling the office at 814-942-5503.*

**THE TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS** - This biblical event appears in each of the Gospel books as an important moment in the life of Jesus and evidence of his divinity. After Jesus performs a series of miracles and foretells His own death, Jesus leads just three of his disciples, Peter, James and John, to a "high mountain." This is where the Transfiguration takes place in which his appearance was radiantly transformed. The transfiguration of Jesus Christ was a powerful demonstration of His divine nature and manifestation of His glory, which Jesus possessed prior to coming to earth in the human body. The origins of the feast are less than certain and may have derived from the dedication of three basilicas on Mount Tabor. The feast was present in various forms by the 9th century, and in the Western Church was made a universal feast on August 6 by Pope Callixtus III to commemorate the defeat of the Muslim invasion of Christian Belgrade in 1496.

**BACK TO MASS ON AUGUST 15** – Along with the other bishops of Pennsylvania, Bishop Mark has announced that the dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation ceases to be in effect beginning on August 15. Of course, there is always a dispensation for those with medical issues. For the safety's sake, those not yet vaccinated are asked to continue wearing a mask, and to practice social distancing at Mass.

**OUR SECOND SUNDAY FOOD COLLECTION** – Remember that next Sunday is the second Sunday of the month, and we are grateful for the generosity shown for our local food banks! "When I was hungry, you gave me to eat..."

**ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY LITURGY:** Bishop Mark Bartchak and the Family Life Office cordially invite all couples celebrating **1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60+ years of marriage in 2021** (and their families) to attend the Annual Wedding Anniversary Liturgy. Couples may attend Sunday, **September 12** in **ALTOONA** at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament or Sunday, **September 19** in **JOHNSTOWN** at St. John Gualbert Cathedral. Both locations are handicap accessible. Liturgies in each location begin at 2:00 p.m. Bishop Mark will be the celebrant and homilist at each celebration. Refreshments/snacks will be available after the mass for anniversary couples and their families, as COVID safety measures permit. *Reservations must be made through your parish for either celebration by Monday, August 23. To make a reservation, please call the Parish Office at 814-942-5503 by Friday, August 20.*

## FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Registration information for the 2021-2022 can be found on our website and also in the Gathering Space.



**We're Looking for Catechists and Helpers for the following classes:**

Kindergarten/First Grade  
Third/Fourth Grade  
Fifth/Sixth Grade

To volunteer to teach or help in a classroom, or if you would like more information, please contact Diane Ryan by calling the office at 814-942-5503 or by emailing [stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net](mailto:stjohnsecretary@atlanticbb.net).

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** St. Paul advises us in his letter to the Ephesians to "put away the old self of your former way of life...and put on the new self." Paul is calling for a conversion, a change in how we live. Jesus began his ministry with telling people to "Repent." The original word Jesus said was "*metanoeo*," the Greek words as reported in the Gospels. There are two parts to this word: the *meta* means "change," and the second *noeo* refers to the mind and its thought and perception. What Jesus was really saying to us was "change your hearts and minds."

We are called to a change, a transformation that puts God at the center of our lives rather than self. This is the stewardship conversion. This is not a one-time conversion but an ongoing one, a daily one, perhaps even more than once a day. It is not impossible if we everything we do is motivated by the desire to live as Jesus wants us to. It is not easy, but it is joyful and fulfilling. (*Stewardship Reflection*, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2015/7/14)

### July 18, 2021

Envelopes	\$ 4,263.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 493.00
Children's Offerings	\$ 3.00
Catholic Education	\$ 30.00
Catholic Register	\$ 25.00
Assumption of Mary	\$ 20.00
Missionary Cooperative	\$ 220.75
Food Bank Collection	\$ 195.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 5,249.00</b>
Online Giving	\$ 1,763.00
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 7,012.00</b>

### Restore\*Repair\*Rejoice

Payments/Donations	\$177,282
Pledge Payment Committed	\$10,825
Total Pledges/Donations	\$188,107

### 2021 Catholic Ministries Drive: Goal \$42,813.

January 1 to July 14, 2021:

Payments/Donations	44,030
Pledge Payments Committed	\$25
Total Pledges/Donations	\$44,055

## ST JOHN'S PRAYER LIST

Please call Ginny Reeder (695-7671) or email her at [giny.reeder@gmail.com](mailto:giny.reeder@gmail.com) to add or remove someone from the prayer list. PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING and their caregivers and give thanks for those who have recovered. *Lord we ask for your blessings and care for these and all people in need:*

**Aiden • Seth Alexander • Amy B. • Scott Brenneman  
Dan Burley • Cari Ann • Robert Cole • Michelle Cooney  
Mary Lee Madigan-Davis • Betty Dennis • John Dennis  
Jim DeStefano • Michael DeStefano • Gary Ellis  
Bernadine Farrell • Kathy Felty • Leann Frazier  
Matt Gormley • Ken Hartman • Randy Horton  
Alexandra Hudson • Tim Jimenez • Amy Langenbacher  
Lisa • Sherri Maffettone • Genevieve Mathias  
Susie Miller • Karrie McCall • Sylvia Louise Mills  
Barbara Moore • Ailani Myers • Patricia Olson  
Mary Oricko • Linda Pletcher • Connie R • Mary Rajnish  
Allison Recker • Vicki Riley • Lauryn Ryan  
Olga Romerowicz • Mike Rudolph • Pat Seiler  
Bruce Shank • Anne Showalter • Tim Temofonte  
Bill Teufel • Kathy Wagner • Lois Werfel • Len Whitten  
Daronda Wooldridge • Milan & Family**

**GIVE US THIS DAY:** It is time to subscribe or renew a subscription to this monthly missal. You can place your \$30 payment in the envelope provided in the Gathering Space and drop it in the collection. Give Us This Day is a wonderful resource for personal prayer, as well as for your preparation for daily or Sunday Mass.

**WISDOM LITERATURE & PSALMS ZOOM CLASS:** Deacon Michael Russo will be teaching the course Wisdom Literature & Psalms. This six week Zoom course will study the biblical Wisdom Literature and selected Psalms with a focus on their underlying message and the literary contribution of ancient Israel to world literature. The registration fee for this class is \$45 and the required books can be purchased online at Amazon.com. For registration and book information, please contact Marybeth at (814) 361-2000 or by email at [mheinze@dioceseaj.org](mailto:mheinze@dioceseaj.org).

**FALL CLASSES ANNOUNCED:** Faith formation is a life-long endeavor. By virtue of our baptism, we are called to continually grow closer to Christ through a life of prayer, service, and knowledge of our faith. The Office of Adult Enrichment and Lay Ecclesial Ministry has announced their 2021-2022 class schedule. For a description of classes, locations, times, registration forms and to learn more about our programs please visit [www.dioceseaj.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry/](http://www.dioceseaj.org/lay-ecclesial-ministry/) or contact Marybeth at (814) 361-2000/ [mheinze@dioceseaj.org](mailto:mheinze@dioceseaj.org). **All are welcome!**

**DO YOU ENJOY BOWLING?** It's not too late to sign up for our parish Bowling League. We bowl every other Friday night from September through April. There is a sign-up sheet on the kiosk in the Gathering Space. For more information, call Gary Johnson at 814-696-2683



**Eighteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
August 1, 2021**

Do not work for food that perishes  
but for the food that endures  
for eternal life.

— John 6:27a



## ***Schedule for the Week***

### **Sunday, August 1 – The 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*  
10:00 AM - Mass for *Joseph Saad* requested by  
Tom & Fran Semelsberger

### **Monday, August 2 – Weekday**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Jean Riccitelli* requested by  
Her Family

### **Tuesday, August 3 – Weekday**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Leroy Musselman* requested by  
Anna Musselman

### **Wednesday, August 4 – St. John Vianney, Priest**

5:30 PM - Confessions  
6:00 PM - Mass for *Reta M. Loth* requested by  
David & Bonnie Loth

### **Thursday, August 5 – Weekday**

8:30AM– Mass for *Irene Becker* requested by the  
Rose & Vance Sczura

### **Friday, August 6 – The Transfiguration of the Lord**

8:30AM– Mass for *Helen Fornwalt* requested by the  
Dan & Diane Turcovsky

### **Saturday, August 7 - Vigil of The 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

3:00 PM - Confessions  
4:00 PM - Mass for *Ron Peschock* requested by  
Ray & Mary King

### **Sunday, August 8 – The 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*  
10:00 AM - Mass for *Andrew Dancha* requested by  
Frank & Nancy Mincin

## **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Nm 11:4b-15; Ps 81:12-17; Mt 14:13-21  
Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13; Ps 51:3-7, 12-13; 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, 21-23; Mt 15:21-28  
Thursday: Nm 20:1-13; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Mt 16:13-23  
Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pt 1:16-19;  
Mk 9:2-10  
Saturday: Dt 6:4-13; Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51; Mt 17:14-20  
Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:4-8; Ps 34:2-9; Eph 4:30 — 5:2;  
Jn 6:41-51

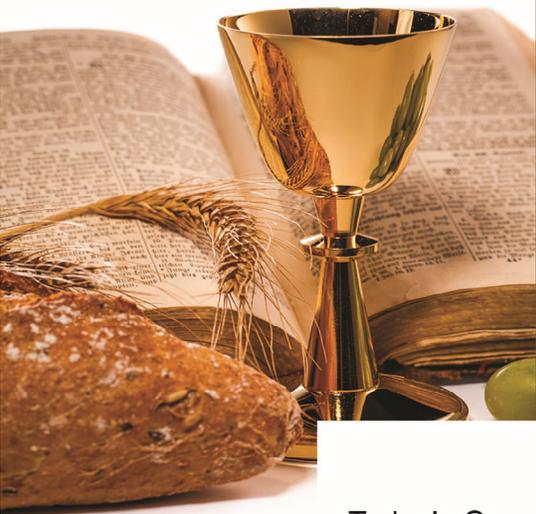
### ***Patris Corde, 3. An Obedient Father, Believer of Truth***

This week we ponder St. Joseph's acceptance of the Lord's commands. As he had done with Mary, God revealed his saving plan to Joseph with the use of angels. With Joseph God used dreams. In the Bible and among all ancient peoples, dreams were considered a way for God to make his will known. In the first dream depicted in scripture, the angel of God said "Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife into your home. The child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.'" Joseph immediately responded. Obedience made it possible for him to surmount his difficulties and spare Mary. This week we pray to St. Joseph to help us practice the virtue of obedience, especially in following God's will daily. ***St. Joseph, obedient father, example of virtue, pray for us.*** (Pope Francis Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde*, 3, Dec. 8, 2020) 2021, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Liturgy Committee, Liturgy Office, *Mary, Mother of the Church Pastoral Center, 2713 W. Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601.*

***FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL:*** (*John 6:24-35*) In today's gospel Jesus tells us: "Do not work for what perishes." Give your life to what endures such as the family history you are creating, the love and mutual respect which bonds you together, the memories you share and the forgiveness generously given. These are the true treasures that are worth working and dying for. *Reprinted with permission: A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar.*

***IS GOD CALLING YOU TO BECOME A DEACON?*** Do you believe that God might be calling you to discern the Ordained Ministry of Christ the Servant, as a Permanent Deacon in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown? If so, you and your wife (if married) are invited to join Bishop Mark and Deacon Michael Russo at the "*Bishop's Night of Vocations*" on **Tuesday, September 28th at 7 p.m.** at the US Hotel Tavern, Hollidaysburg. Reservations for this event are required and can be made by contacting Marybeth at (814) 361-2000. The deadline for reservations is September 6th. For more information on the Permanent Diaconate please visit us online at [www.dioceseaj.org/Diaconate/](http://www.dioceseaj.org/Diaconate/) or by contacting Deacon Michael Russo, Director at (814) 288-3036. All are welcome!

***FLEA MARKET:*** St. Therese Conference /St. Vincent de Paul Society will hold a Flea Market on Friday Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> & Saturday Aug. 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm in Father Kelley Hall on the corner of 25<sup>th</sup> Ave. and 5<sup>th</sup> St., Altoona.



*August 1, 2021*

## EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### GOD PROVIDES

Today's Gospel is a sequel to last week's account of Jesus feeding a large crowd with five barley loaves and a few fish. Here, Jesus is challenging the crowd to see in the bread they have eaten a sign of God's generosity in providing for all the blessings in their lives, as well as the blessing of life itself. The first reading, from Exodus, recounts how the escaped Hebrew slaves were fed in the wilderness, first with quail, then with manna. The psalm is a later reflection on the manna as the bread from heaven and a blessing from God. The selection from the letter to the Ephesians sketches the image of putting away the "old self" and putting on the new, emphasizing that a person's life in Christ needs to differ from their previous life, just as the life of a free person differs from that of a slave.

### SIGNS AND WONDERS?

Today's Gospel continues into a second day the narrative that had begun the day before when, after crossing the lake to look for Jesus, a large crowd are fed with five barley loaves and two fish. The following day (today's reading), after more lake crossings, the people who had been miraculously fed are again searching for Jesus. However, they do so (as Jesus puts it) "not because you saw signs, but because you ate the loaves and were filled" (John 6:6).

In John's Gospel, the word "sign" has a distinct meaning. At the wedding at Cana, after telling how Jesus turned water into wine, the Evangelist notes "Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs" that "revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him" (John 2:11). For John, signs are not just wonders to behold; they are about the revelation of God and a response of faith in Jesus.

### OR MAYBE THE SIGN IS THE WONDER

When the crowd first arrives, Jesus notes that they had not appreciated the sign that he had already given; they are still focused on their physical hunger. When they ask for a sign, "that we may see and believe in you" (John 6:30), they refer to their ancestors who ate manna in the wilderness. Can Jesus top that? Can he give them more bread that will relieve them of their daily worries about going hungry?

Jesus reminds the crowd that it was not Moses who gave the "bread from heaven," but his Father. Further, the Father can give them the true bread from heaven that comes down and gives life to the world. There is a parallel in the Greek between working for food that perishes and doing the works of God, which is believing in Jesus as the one God has sent. This is the sign that the people missed the day before, the sign that Jesus is pointing out to them.

Like the Evangelist, the Church uses the word "sign" for its sacraments. Like the crowd, we are called to see similar "signs" of God's generosity in all the blessings of our lives.

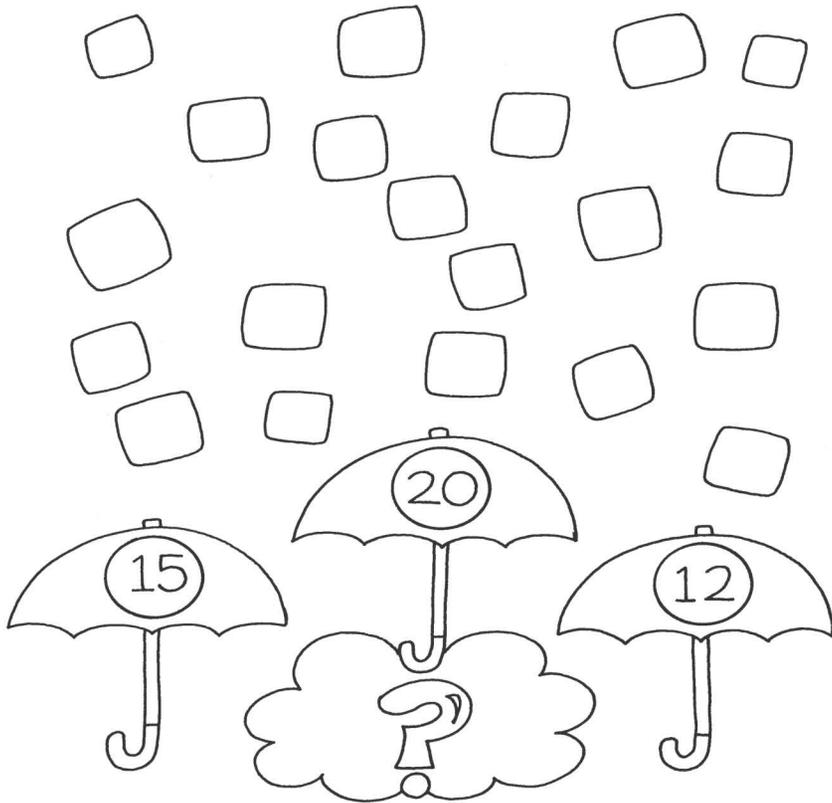
### TODAY'S READINGS

Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15  
Psalm 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54  
Ephesians 4:17, 20-24  
John 6: 24-35

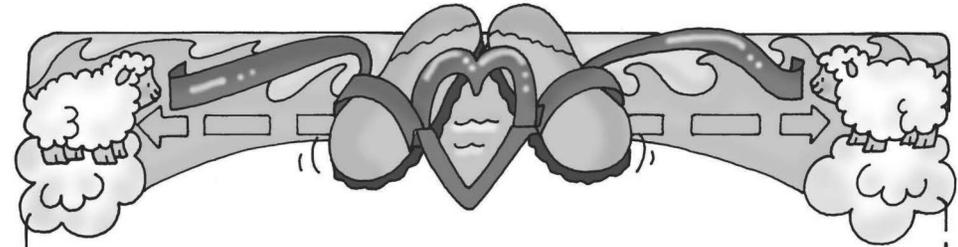
*The bread of God  
is that which comes down from heaven  
and gives life to the world. John 6:33*

# God's Word for Children

God provided for the Hebrew people when they were traveling in the desert by sending them food from heaven. Count the flakes of bread that are falling. Then color the umbrella that has that number.



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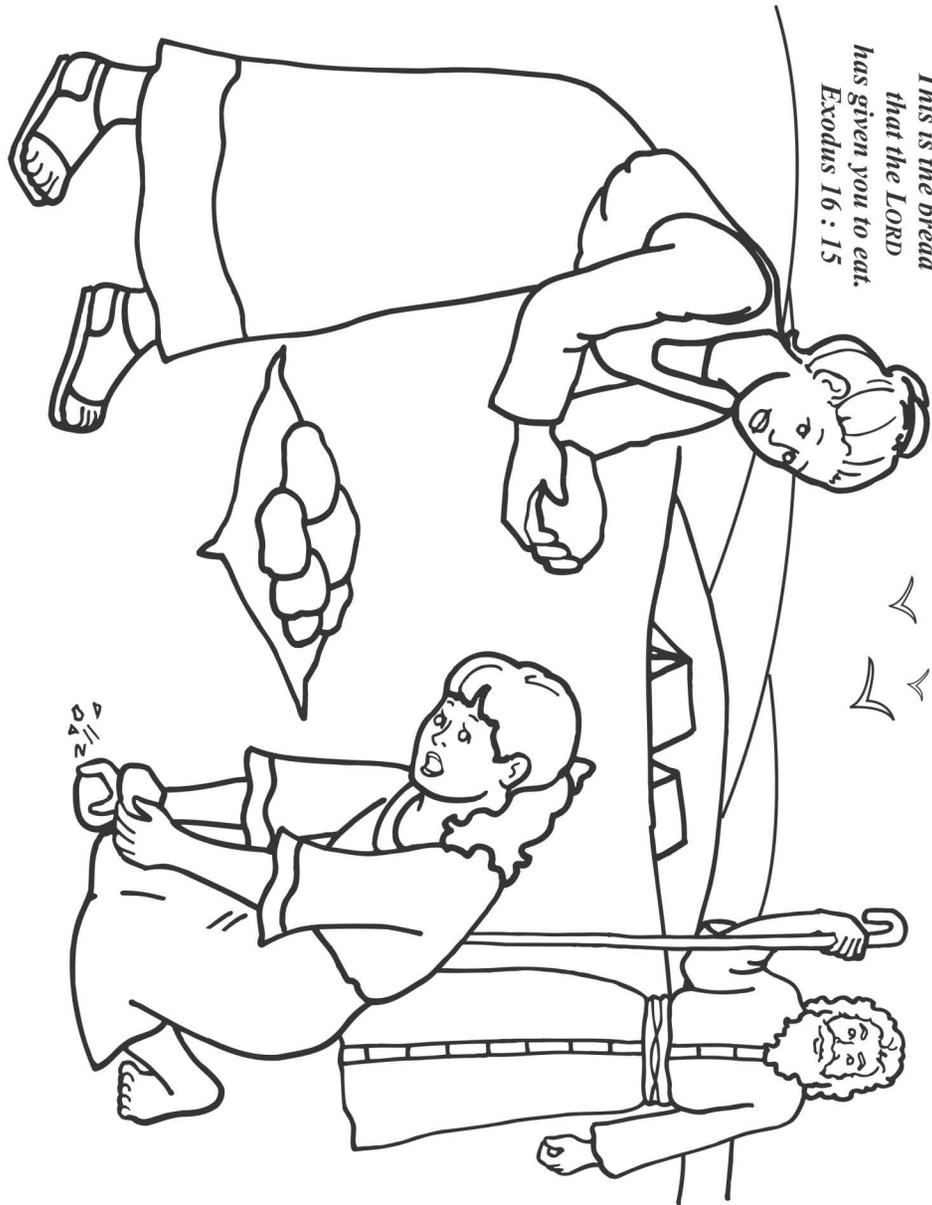


## Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus said that those who come to him would never hunger or thirst. To find what this means, write the words that are written backwards correctly.

suseJ	si
_____	_____
elba	ot
_____	_____
yfsitas	su
_____	_____!





*This is the bread  
that the LORD  
has given you to eat.  
Exodus 16 : 15*



## I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

Jesus speaks about bread again today, teaching the people that God has given them “the true bread from heaven” that “gives life to the world”—Jesus himself. “I am the bread of life,” he tells them. People who heard this found it hard to understand and believe. It is hard for us to understand, too, but we do believe.

Right before Communion time at Mass the priest raises the bread and cup, the Body and Blood of Jesus, and says:

*“Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.”*

We look at Jesus, present in the bread and wine, and pray:

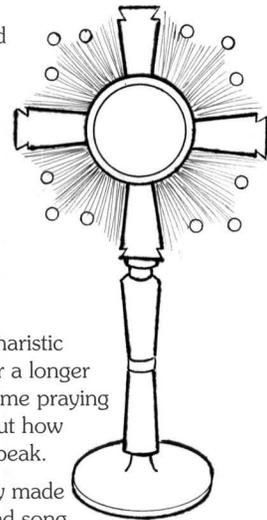
*“Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.”*

This Mass prayer only lasts a moment, but a devotion called Eucharistic Adoration allows us to gaze in prayer at Jesus, the Bread of Life, for a longer period of time, usually an hour, called a Holy Hour. We spend this time praying quietly in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. We can think about how Jesus’ presence in us should make a difference in how we act and speak.

The consecrated bread is placed in a monstrance, a vessel usually made of gold and beautifully decorated, often with jewels. After prayers and song, the Holy Hour ends with a special blessing with the Blessed Sacrament.

If your parish has a Holy Hour you might consider attending with someone from your family. If not, see if you can take a few minutes sometime during the week to make a visit to church and pray quietly before the tabernacle. These words are part of the Divine Praises, one of the prayers said during Eucharistic Adoration. You can pray them by yourself when you visit.

*Blessed be God.  
Blessed be his holy name.  
Blessed be the name of Jesus.  
Blessed be Jesus in the most holy sacrament of the altar.*



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LeafGuard® is a registered trademark of LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limited one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$25 gift card. Retail value is \$25. Other sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limited one per household. Must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID, be able to understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this promotion: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities; other immediate family members; previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months; and all current and former Company customers. Offer may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail or e-mailed within 30 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Amazon and is subject to change without notice prior to expiration. Expires 8/31/2021.

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- Eliminates the risk of falling off a ladder to clean clogged gutters
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LeafGuard operates as LeafGuard of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania under MCEPA license number PA126357 and in West Virginia under license number WV055024.

\*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we'll clean your gutters for free.



**ENGLERT LeafGuard®**  
Get it. And forget it.™