



JESUS TOOK THE LOAVES,  
GAVE THANKS, AND DISTRIBUTED THEM  
TO THOSE WHO WERE RECLINING,  
AND ALSO AS MUCH OF THE  
FISH AS THEY WANTED.

JOHN 6:11

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



God bless Delaney Rose, daughter of Mark & Casey Stephens, who was baptized by Monsignor Becker last weekend at the 4:00 Mass.



#### NEXT WEEK'S APPOINTMENTS

##### LECTORS

Sat. July 31 - 4:00 PM - Joyce Cunningham,  
Susanna Tomlinson  
Sun. Aug. 1 - 8:00 AM - James Krug, Darlene Scarpaci  
Sun. Aug. 1 - 10:00 AM - Bill Foose, Norma Foose

##### ALTAR SERVERS

Sat. July 31 - 4:00 PM - Keaton Swope, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Aug. 1 - 8:00 AM - Mai Linh Do, Amber Yasolsky  
Sun. Aug. 1 - 10:00 AM - Evie Koch, Estella Koch

##### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sat. July 31 - 4:00 PM - Connie Baker, NOT FILLED  
Sun. Aug. 1 - 8:00 AM - NOT FILLED  
Sun. Aug. 1 - 10:00 AM - Marilyn Bevan,  
Barbara Bundy

##### MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Sat. July 31 - 4:00 PM - Carolyn English, Betsy Lloyd,  
Judy Sneath, Bily Sweet  
Sun. Aug. 1 - 8:00 AM - Jane Strasser, Ginny Reeder,  
Paula VanSickel, Larry VanSickel  
Sun. Aug. 1 - 10:00 AM - Walter Bloom, Mary Grace  
Horton, Dolores Capriotti, Patrick Podoletz

##### SACRISTAN

Sat. July 31 - 4:00 PM - Mary & Ray King  
Sun. Aug. 1 - 8:00 AM - Darlene Scarpaci  
Sun. Aug. 1 - 10:00 AM - Dolores Capriotti

##### SCRIP

Sat. July 31 - 4:00 PM - Julie Beiswenger, Becky Merilli  
Sun. Aug. 1 - 8:00 AM - Chris Palazzi, Heather Yasolsky  
Sun. Aug. 1 - 10:00 AM - Peg Madden, Marge Rudolph



#### July Prayer Intention of Pope Francis *Social friendship*

We pray that, in social, economic and political  
situations of conflict, we may be courageous  
and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

## A Few Words from the Pastor:

**ST. JOHN'S PARISH PICNIC!** Please plan on joining us for our parish picnic next Sunday. There are sign-up sheets on the kiosk inviting your attendance, what you wish to bring, and what services you might be able to give in making this wonderful parish event! PLEASE JOIN US! We are most grateful to the committee for all work that they have been doing in laying out special activities for the whole of the coming year.

**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!

**A SAINTLY FAMILY!** – The celebration of the holiness of life of Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, will be celebrated on Thursday, July 28th. This family was especially close to Jesus, who spent restful time at their home. We remember them especially in the marvelous miracle of the resurrection of Lazarus.

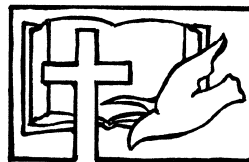


**PARISH PICNIC:** Don't forget to sign up if you are able to attend our Parish Picnic on Sunday, August 1, after the 10:00 Mass. Sign ups for food as well as for volunteers to help set-up, serve food and clean up are posted on the kiosk. ***We ask that you bring your food in disposable containers if possible. Our clean up crew thanks you in advance.*** We are so excited to get back into social events, to celebrate our parish family, and have planned some fun games and activities for the whole family. Won't you join us?

**A NEW FACE IN OUR COMMUNITY** - Beginning this weekend, our parishes of St. John and St. Rose of Lima will be blessed with the priestly ministry of Father Nelson Javier, TOR, a Franciscan of St. Bernadine's monastery in Holidaysburg. He has been serving in a parish in Florida for many years, but is being transferred here to the Altoona Johnstown diocese, and will be residing at Mount Carmel. I know he will be given a warm welcome by our parish communities.

**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 safety's sake, those not yet vaccinated are asked to continue wearing a mask, and to practice social distancing at Mass.

### **FAITH FORMATION**



#### **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.*

#### **PASTORAL STAFF**

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

### **FAITH FORMATION NEWS**

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

**All 9<sup>th</sup> grade students attending Bishop Guilfoyle need to be registered in order to prepare for Confirmation in 11<sup>th</sup> grade.**

*All 2nd grade students attending Catholic School do not need to register, but we ask parents to please let us know if they will be receiving their First Reconciliation here in December and First Communion in the spring.*



Find us on  
**facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/St-John-the-Evangelist-Catholic-Church-113507735349570>

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER:** Today's Gospel speaks to us of God's unconditional love for us and His boundless generosity. He cares for our needs in such a way that we are not only cared for, but we are given more than we could ever ask for. He does this on His own accord, of His own free will, and with His own capability. We are called to love and care for everyone as the boy with five barley loaves and three fish did. He was called upon to give what he had in order for Christ to carry out His mission of caring for every single human being. With that mission in mind, He calls each one of us to assist Him. But He asks us to help. He wants us to help. We are called to give him all that we have; our time, our talents and our treasure, so that, together with Him, we can feed the world, offering others the love of Christ and sharing the Gospel with them. (*Stewardship Reflection*, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2012/7/17)

#### **July 11, 2021**

Envelopes	\$ 3,768.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 785.73
Children's Offerings	\$ 1.00
Catholic Education	\$ 10.00
Catholic Register	\$ 10.00
Peter's Pence	\$ 10.00
Missionary Cooperative	\$ 1,510.75
2nd Sunday Food	\$ 277.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 6,371.48</b>
Online Giving	\$ 3,596.00
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 9,967.00</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 [ginny.reeder@gmail.com](mailto:ginny.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 • 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**

### **HOME WITH THE LORD**

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:

**Mary Jean Stein**

*May she rest in the peace and joy of the Lord.*

**ST. JOHN'S BOWLING LEAGUE** St. John's Bowling League is a fun, non-competitive league that welcomes bowlers of all abilities. We bowl twice a month on Friday evening from September through April at Holiday Bowl. Please consider joining in on the fun and fellowship of an occasional night out at the bowling alley with fellow parishioners. *There is a sign-up sheet on the kiosk in the Gathering Space for new and returning bowlers.* For more information, call Gary Johnson at 814-696-2683

**FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL:** (*John 6:1-5*) In today's gospel Phillip worried about "enough food" for the crowd. What is ENOUGH? When does our ENOUGH deprive another family of their fair share? Jesus performed today's miracle because one child was willing to share and risk living with less. Can your family live more simply so that other families can simple live? *Reprinted with permission: A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar.*

**YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH CELEBRATION:** Saint Joseph Mission Church, Hart's Sleeping Place, Carrolltown. This historic Church, blessed by Servant of God, Demetrius Gallitzin himself on October 10, 1830, is open once a month for self-guided tours from Noon – 3:00 pm: August 1 and September 5. *A Special outdoor Mass with Bishop Mark is on Sunday, August 1, at 4:00 pm;* Confessions - 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. Please bring a lawn chair and umbrella if necessary. There will be handicap access for Mass. [www.sjmc1830.com](http://www.sjmc1830.com)



**Patris Corde, 2. A Tender and Loving Father,  
Believer of Truth**

The family went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover. On their return Jesus became separated from his parents. They first thought he was in the caravan with others. They searched for three days. When they found him, he was discussing matters of his faith with the teachers in the synagogue. Joseph and Mary expressed their concern and worry. He told them that he must be about his Father's work.

"Tenderness is the best way to touch the frailty within us. Pointing fingers and judging others are frequently signs of an inability to accept our own weaknesses. Only tender love will save us from the snares of the accuser. That is why it is so important to encounter God's mercy especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, where we experience his truth and tenderness. We know that God's truth does not condemn, but instead welcomes, embraces, sustains and forgives us. Pope Francis compared that truth always to the merciful father in the parable Jesus told of the Lost Son. Truth comes out to meet us, restores our dignity, sets us back on our feet and rejoices for us."

**St. Joseph, a tender loving father, believer of Truth,  
pray for us.**

(Pope Francis Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde*, 2. 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.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR SR. CELESTE CIESIELKA**

Carmelite Community of the Word will celebrate a Memorial Prayer Service honoring the life of Sr. Celeste Ciesielka who died from Covid-19 on December 15, 2020. Sr. Celeste served in many roles and touched the lives of many throughout the diocese. Family, friends and co-workers are invited to join in this celebration to be held at the CCW Incarnation Center Motherhouse, 394 Bem Rd, Gallitzin, PA on Sunday, August 1, 2021. An outdoor prayer service is planned for 2PM with a reception to continue until 4PM. Attendees are asked to bring a lawn chair if possible to compliment seating within a tent. RSVP's are requested by July 28, 2021 by emailing communityofficeCCW@gmail.com.

**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.



**Seventeenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
July 25, 2021**

The eyes of all look hopefully to you,  
and you give them their food  
in due season.

— Psalm 145:15

**Schedule for the Week**

**Sunday, July 25 – The 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM - Mass for *People of the Parish*

10:00 AM - Mass for *Joseph Gallagher* requested by  
Bernadine Farrell & Family

**Monday, July 26 – St. Joachim & Anne, Parents of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Ron Peschock* requested by  
Cursillo Group

**Tuesday, July 27 – Weekday**

8:30 AM - Mass for *Francis Bean* requested by  
Mary Petrak

**Wednesday, July 28 – Weekday**

5:30 PM - Confessions

6:00 PM - Mass for *Andrew Dancha* requested by  
His wife, Florence and children Vicki, Dana & Drew

**Thursday, July 29 – Saints Martha, Mary & Lazarus**

8:30AM– Mass for *Joseph Gallagher* requested by the  
Dr. Greg Sweeney

**Friday, July 30 – Weekday**

8:30AM– Mass for *Rita Hill* requested by the  
Richard & Joyce Lowe

**Saturday, July 31 - Vigil of The 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary  
Time**

3:00 PM - Confessions

4:00 PM - Mass for *Carol Bismark* requested by  
Dave & Connie McManuels

**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

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Ps 106:19-23; Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Ps 103:6-13;  
Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday: Ex 34:29-35; Ps 99:5-7, 9; Mt 13:44-46

Thursday: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Ps 84:3-6a, 8a, 11;  
Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

Friday: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Ps 81:3-6, 10-11ab; Mt 13:54-58

Saturday: Lv 25:1, 8-17; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Mt 14:1-12

Sunday: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15; Ps 78:3-4, 23-25, 54; Eph 4:17, 20-24; Jn 6:24-35

**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!*

**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. Please call the office (814-942-5503) before August 20 to register to attend at either location.**

**RECEIVE UP TO DATE INFORMATION FROM ST. JOHN'S WITH FLOCKNOTE :** We want to communicate more effectively with you. But we also want to make it easy for you to control what types of announcements you get from us and how you are notified when we make them. And in order to do this we are using a new, simple service called FLOCKNOTE. Like sending "notes" to your "flock". This is all totally free for you to use and it's going to also make it easy for you to stay plugged in to the ministries or groups that you care about, all by text message or email updates. Your information will be completely safe and secure. And you can unsubscribe from any updates at any time! To join, text SJC1 to 84576. Then after it responds, make sure you click that link and complete the process. If you can't complete this on your mobile phone, please go online to [stjohnsaltoona.flocknote.com](http://stjohnsaltoona.flocknote.com) to register.



<https://www.facebook.com/St-John-the-Evangelist-Catholic-Church-113507735349570>

**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. **Please note the date has changed from previous announcements.** 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!

**SUMMER TRADITION CONTINUES:** Outdoor Masses will be celebrated at the Our Lady of the Alleghenies Shrine in Loretto every Sunday night at 7:00 p.m. continuing through Labor Day weekend – September 5. Those attending are asked to bring their own lawn chair. In the event of inclement weather, Mass will be celebrated inside the Basilica of Saint Michael the Archangel next to the Shrine. Faithful are invited to come early to the outdoor Masses and visit one of the most historic sites in the diocese. The Prince Gallitzin Chapel House, located next to the Shrine, will be open for self-guided tours from 3:00-6:00 p.m. on July 18; and August 1, 15, and 29. The humble structure was the home and personal chapel of the Prince-Priest and Servant of God Demetrius Gallitzin. Today, it stands as a museum, which contains artifacts from Father Gallitzin's personal life.

**ETHNIC FOOD FESTIVAL:** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church 605 Graham Ave in Windber will have a three day Ethnic Food Festival starting on Friday 7/30 12:00pm - 7:00pm, Saturday 7/31 11:00am - 7:00pm and on Sunday 8/1 12:00 - 5:00pm. Take out only. HALUPKI, HALUSZKI, HOMEMADE PIEROGI, PAGACZ, KIEBASSA, HOT SAUSAGE, PIZZA, CHURCH BAKED GOODS AND MORE.

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# **ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH**

## **HISTORY 101 – CHAPTER 3**

*In chapters 1 & 2, we outlined our parish's formation in 1920 & growth through 1990.  
This week we begin in 1991, the year our dream of a new worship space really began.*

- 1991** In November, the parish received a large bequest from General Wilfred A. & Mrs. Louise Adler Morgan. A long range planning committee was formed to consider the best use for these funds.
- 1991** In December, the committee reported its findings, which included these 3 main needs/recommendations: a larger worship space, space for a kindergarten & possibly a pre-kindergarten, & additional space for educational & social functions. The next month, the parish council accepted the above recommendations.
- 1992** On May 11<sup>th</sup>, the parish council recommended a new building for worship with plans to reclaim the present worship space for educational space.
- 1992** In August, permission was received from Bishop Adamec to compile a cost estimate.
- 1992** In August & November, properties at 346 & 344 Baynton Avenue were purchased.
- 1993** In January, Hayes, Large Architects & Ed Kale, Liturgical Consultant were hired. (Four architectural firms had been interviewed the previous month.)
- 1993** Between March & July, 4 educational meetings were held for the parish to discuss liturgical & parish requirements for a new church & also to gather input from parishioners on design ideas for the new building.
- 1993** In April, a building committee was formed.
- 1993** Between August 1993 & September 1994, 3 additional surrounding properties were purchased.
- 1994** In November, a capital campaign to help fund the building project was begun. A minimum goal of \$750,000 was established & by December 11<sup>th</sup>, the pledges received from parishioners totaled \$634,350.
- 1994** On December 22<sup>nd</sup>, representatives from parish council & from the finance, building, & capital campaign committees unanimously voted to proceed with the building of a new worship space although only \$705,000 of the \$750,000 goal had been pledged.
- 1996** On Palm Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, ground breaking ceremonies were held.
- 1996** On Christmas Eve, Masses were held for the first time in our new worship space.
- 1997** On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, our new church was dedicated by Bishop Adamec & a reception for all parishioners followed.

continued ...

# Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

JULY 25, 2021

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Andrew said to Jesus,  
“There is a boy here who has  
five barley loaves and two fish;  
but what good are these for so many?”

JOHN 6:8–9

## GOD FEEDS AND CARES FOR US

Today's message could be summed up in psalm 145, “The hand of the Lord feeds us, he answers all our needs.” Each reading shows how carefully God feeds and cares for us, in an up-close and personal fashion. Elisha fed the crowd from twenty barley loaves. Jesus blessed a few loaves and thousands were fed. Perhaps this seems far-fetched, but we read stories in the news about chefs taking the leftovers from fancy restaurants and feeding many people in a soup kitchen. As a schoolgirl, one of my favorite stories was “Stone Soup,” the tale of a couple of war-weary soldiers convincing the people of a frightened and starving little country village to bring out their meager supplies and share them to make a marvelous soup to feed the town. The second reading asks us to “Consider well our call.” How do we respond to those in need around us?

## MIRACLE OR MAGIC?

It can be easy to just say, “Oh yes, this is the story of the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, when everybody decided to share the bits of food they had.” But how much of it is really about feeding the crowds? “Jesus said to Philip, ‘Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?’ He said this to test him, because he knew what he was going to do.” It must have been very hard to trust Jesus, especially when the disciples often didn't understand him. This year has been challenging for us, too, to trust that God will provide, and also challenging for us to ask for help.

In the Rule of Saint Benedict, there is a chapter called “The assignment of impossible tasks.” It says, in essence, that when your superior tells you to do something impossible, it is fine to go talk to them about it, but in the end you may still be asked to do this task. In what situations are we called to trust? When are we asked to act in faith or to do the impossible task?

## HOW WILL WE KNOW WE ARE DOING THE RIGHT THING?

Miracles are seldom as obvious as the multiplication of loaves and fishes. Many years ago, I overheard a family conversation in a restaurant at the end of a long holiday weekend. At the register was one of those collection jars saying, “For just fifty cents a day you can feed a child.” The little girl asked her folks about it and they explained it. She said, “I have money left from my weekend, could I put it in the jar?” The parents said yes and let her go on the adventure for herself. She came back and sat down, and they chatted some more. She said, “If fifty cents feeds a child for a day, then I was able to feed one for three days, because I had \$1.50 left from the weekend.” When we follow this child's example and go beyond the minimum, when we give all we can, we know we are doing the right thing, and we have understood the test that Jesus posed to Philip so long ago.

## TODAY'S READINGS

2 Kings 4:42–44  
Psalm 145:10–11, 15–16, 17–18  
Ephesians 4:1–6  
John 6:1–15

# God's Word for Children

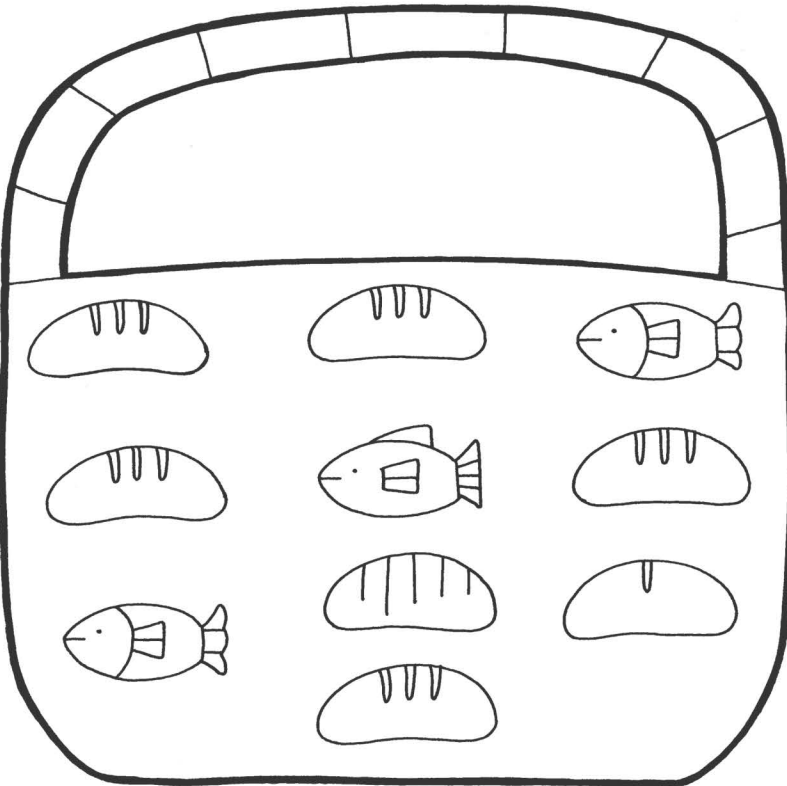
Look in the basket below.

Draw circles around the two fish that look the same.

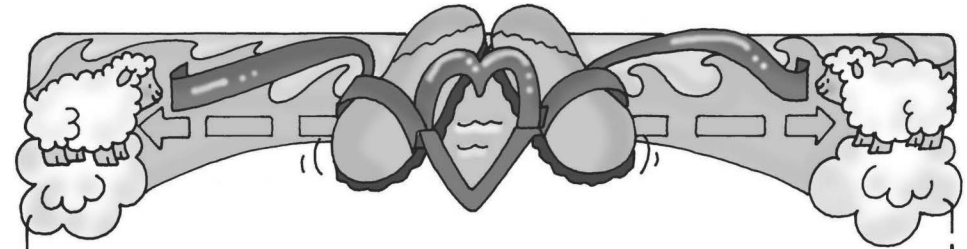
Then draw rectangles around the five loaves of bread that look the same.

Jesus took this amount of food and, by a miracle,  
fed about five thousand hungry people.

(You can read the story in your Bible at John 6:1-15.)



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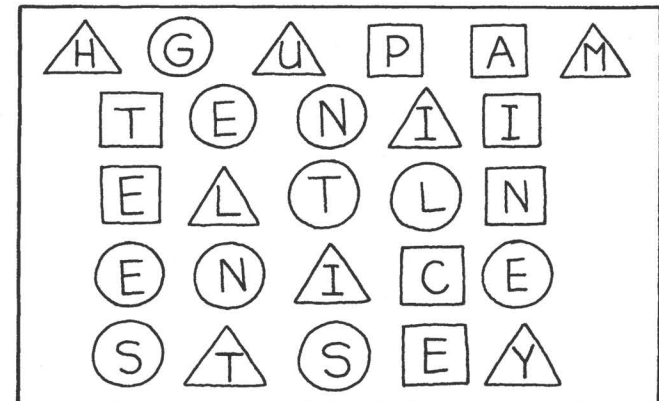
## Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Do you know what Paul wanted the Ephesian people to live with?

Follow the directions to find out.

(You can read Paul's letter in your Bible at Ephesians 4:1-6).

1. Write down all the letters in the triangles, in the order they appear, on the blank by the large triangle.
2. Do the same with the letters that appear in the circles and squares.

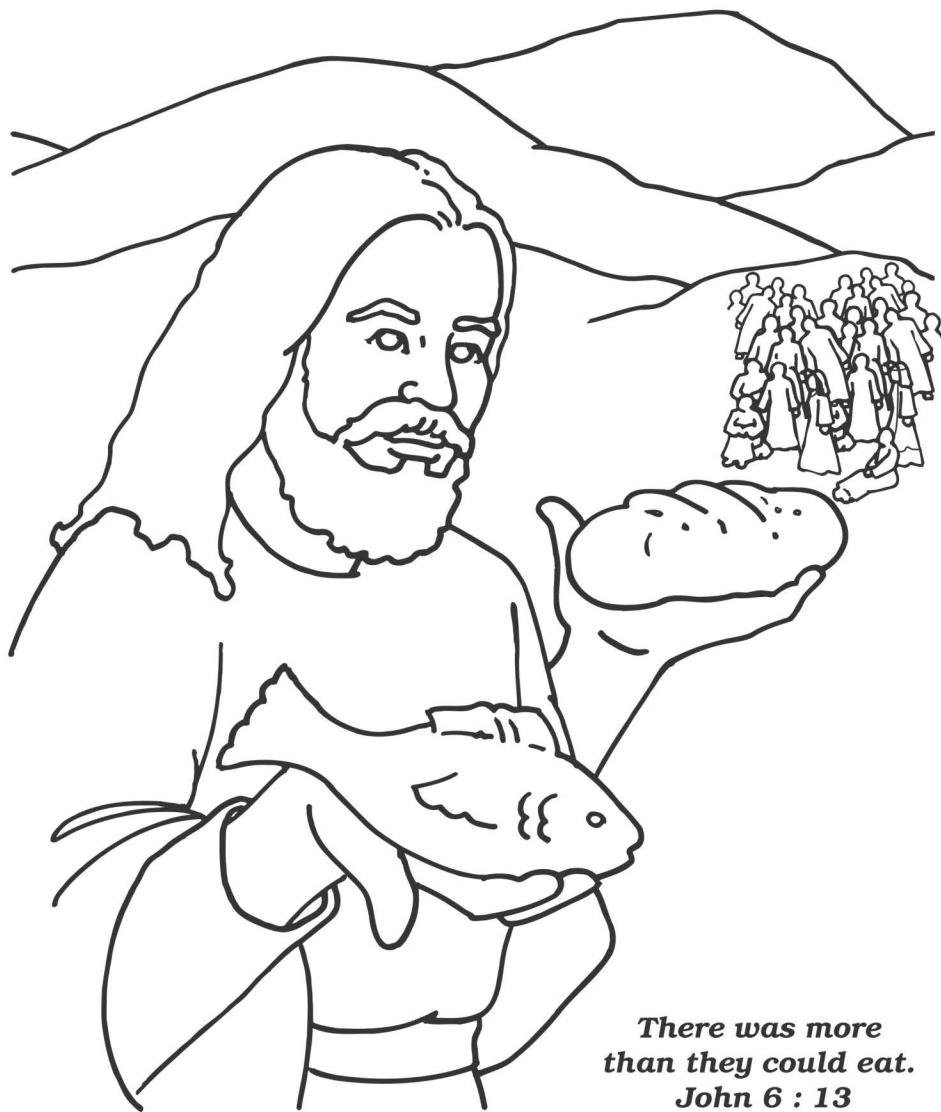


△ = \_\_\_\_\_ ○ = \_\_\_\_\_

□ = \_\_\_\_\_







***There was more  
than they could eat.  
John 6 : 13***

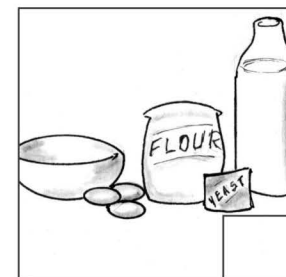


## **MANY GRAINS, ONE LOAF**

Over the next few weeks the Gospels will contain stories about bread. Today we hear about Jesus feeding a large crowd with a few loaves of bread and some fish. In later weeks, Jesus calls himself our "living bread."

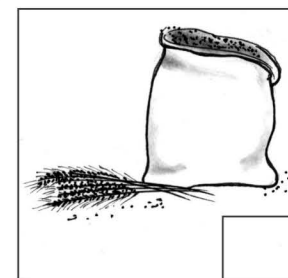
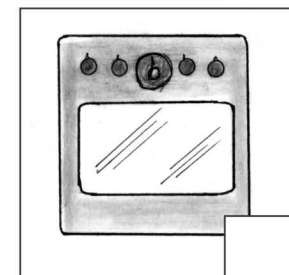
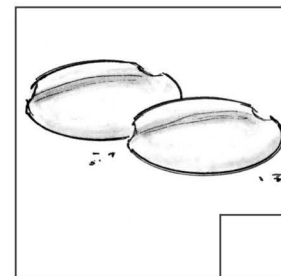
Did you ever wonder why Jesus used bread as the sign to remind us of his presence among us? Think about how bread is made. Most of our bread is made from wheat. When the wheat is ripe it is gathered and the grains ground into flour. The flour is then mixed with other ingredients and baked in an oven. Only then can the loaf of bread be shared and eaten. The many individual grains of wheat become one loaf of bread that we share.

Put the pictures in these squares in order by numbering them from 1 to 4.



The bread we share at Eucharist might look like one of these pictures.

Each time we receive Jesus in the form of bread, we say we believe that we are united with all those around the world who also receive Jesus.



A hymn often sung at Communion time reminds us that, just as the bread is one loaf made from many grains, so are we, many people throughout the world, united as one body in Christ.

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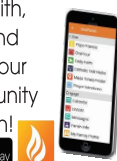
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