

REFLECTION for the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Don

Sometimes one must submit humbly to the powerful words of another. Pope Francis gave a reflection on today's Gospel. So, this week I am presenting portions of his homily given June of 2013.

"The Gospel presents to us the account of the miracle of the Multiplication of the Loaves. I would like to reflect on one aspect of it that never fails to impress me and makes me think.

Jesus is concerned for the people who have spent so many hours with him: there are thousands of them and they are hungry. What should He do? The disciples also pose the problem and tell Jesus: 'Send the crowd away' so that they can go and find provisions in the villages close by.

But Jesus says: 'You give them something to eat.' The disciples answer Him: "we have no more than five loaves and two fish", as if to say, barely enough for ourselves.

Jesus knows what to do, but He wishes to involve His disciples, He wants to teach them.

The disciples' attitude is the human one that seeks the most realistic solution which does not create too many problems: dismiss the crowd... Send the crowd away!

Jesus' outlook is very different; it is dictated by His union with the Father and His compassion for the people, that mercifulness of Jesus for us all.

Jesus senses our problems, He senses our weaknesses, and He senses our needs.

Looking at those five loaves, Jesus thinks: this is Providence! From this small amount, God can make it suffice for everyone. Jesus trusts in the heavenly Father without reserve; He knows that for Him everything is possible.

Thus He tells his disciples to have the people sit down in small groups...it means that they are no longer a crowd but become communities nourished by God's bread. (Like our little Parish)

Jesus then takes those loaves and fish, looks up to heaven, recites the blessing — the reference to the Eucharist is clear — and breaks them and gives them to the disciples who distribute them... and the loaves and fish do not run out, they do not run out!

This is the miracle: rather than a multiplication it is a sharing, inspired by faith and prayer. Everyone eats and some is left over: it is the sign of Jesus, the Bread of God for humanity.

The disciples witnessed the miracle but failed to understand it. Like the crowd they are swept up by enthusiasm for what has occurred. Once again they follow human logic rather than God's, which is that of service, love and faith. The miracle asks us to convert to faith in Providence and faith in Jesus whom we adore in the Eucharist. So may it be, for Jesus is the Bread of Life."

LET US EVER HUNGER FOR THE BREAD OF LIFE.

Sacred Heart Parish

Parish Information

Parish Administrator: Fr. Don Leonard
Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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Liturgical Celebrations

Weekend Masses:
Saturday - 4:30 pm
Sunday - 11:00 a.m.

Masses in Week Days:
Wed 7 pm
Thurs, Fri 10 am

Holy Hour of Adoration:
Third Sunday of the Month,
at 2 pm

Reconciliation
Wed after Mass,
or by request

Marriages:
Six month notice is required.
A year's notice is recommended.

Baptisms:
Celebrated at Weekend Mass
after preparation session.

July 26, 2015
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

July 18, 19

Collection	\$1,334.00
Building Fund	10.00
Votive Candles	41.00
Mass requests	20.00
Garden Party	60.00

MASS INTENTIONS

July 27	No Mass
July 28	Deceased Parishioners
July 29	Deceased Parishioners
July 30	Theresa Tompkins
July 31	Bernice Fralick
Aug 1	Theresa Tompkins
Aug 2	Parish Community

PLEASE NOTE: CEMETERY MASSES

SCHEDULED FOR THIS WEEK

Mount Cecilia	Tues	July 28, 7pm
Mount Patricia	Wed	July 29, 7 pm
Town-site	Thurs	July 30, 7pm

In case of rain, Masses will be in the respective churches at these times.

QUALIPU CELEBRATION

Welcome members of the Qualipu First Nation Band who join us for the celebration of our 11 am Mass this week. We join the Band in celebrating the Feast Day of St. Anne, mother of Mary, and the Qualipu First Nation’s patron saint. Thank you to all who helped organize this special celebration.

CEMETRY CLEAN-UP

We would like to encourage any families with loved ones buried in our Mt. Cecelia Cemetery to make an effort to clean up the individual grave-sites in advance of our Cemetery Mass which will take place this coming Tuesday, July 28 at 7 pm. There is a load of topsoil just outside the cemetery to be used for this purpose.

A PARISH REGISTRATION

Now **74** have been returned. Please fill it out and return it. Fill in enough so that we can register your family. It will help us enumerate our parish community. Additionally, if you know a family who you believe would like to register with our Parish, please take a form and give it to them to complete.

WELCOME VISITORS

This is the time of year when many people come home or come to visit friends and/or relatives. So, we extend a sincere hello to anyone visiting us and joining in our Eucharistic celebrations. Good to see you and God bless you.

A SUGGESTION- COME and SEE

All of us know persons who have, for various reasons, stopped going to church. In living our faith, we believe they are missing out on many graces and blessings from God. In September, we are planning a COME and SEE Campaign. We will be inviting those

who have stopped coming to come and see. We miss them and want them to be part of our Parish family. Perhaps you could mention this to persons you know and invite them to come with you during our Campaign. Start now.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

This notice will serve as a reminder that three (3) new members will be elected to Parish Council in September. Nomination forms will be available in August. Please consider either nominating yourself or someone else to fill this vital role in the life of the Parish.

MASS INTENTIONS

We have only a few Mass intentions requested for August. Again we encourage you to put Mass requests in with your Sunday offering. We will schedule the Mass either ASAP or on the date you request.

PRAYER TO ST. ANNE

O glorious St. Anne, you are filled with compassion for those who invoke you and with love for those who suffer! Heavily burdened with the weight of my troubles, I cast myself at your feet and humbly beg of you to take the present intention, which I now recommend to you, into your special care. Please recommend it also to your daughter, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and place it before the throne of Jesus, so that He may bring it to a happy issue. Continue to intercede for me until my request is

granted. But, above all, obtain for me the grace one day to see my God face to face, and with you and Mary and all the saints to praise and bless Him for all eternity. Amen. Our Father . . . Hail Mary . . . O Jesus, Holy Mary, and St. Anne, help me now and at the hour of my death. Good St. Anne, intercede for me. Amen.

HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP

Meets every Thursday evening at 7:30 pm at the Cathedral. All are welcome.

ST. MARTHA

Her feast day is this Wednesday. Many of us find it easy to identify with Martha. She welcomes Jesus and his disciples into her home and immediately goes to work to serve them. She gets frustrated when her sister Mary ignores the rule of hospitality in order to just sit and listen to Jesus. Martha asks Jesus to intervene.

He reminds her, and each of us, that there is only one thing that is truly important -- listening to Him. And that is what Mary has done.

In Martha we see ourselves -- worried and distracted by all we have to do in the world and forgetting to spend time with Jesus. So let us try to be like Mary most of the time and when conditions dictate let us be like Martha. Our world needs both. Lord teach us to know when to be Martha and when to be Mary.