

The Church's Calendar This Week

Sunday, August 1

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00a/12:00/6:00p

Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Monday, August 2

Monday of the 18th Week in Ordinary Time

Mass at 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after Mass

Tuesday, August 3

Tuesday of the 18th Week in Ordinary Time

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Wednesday, August 4

Memorial of St. John Vianney, priest

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00 a.m.

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Thursday, August 5

Thursday of the 18th Week in Ordinary Time

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Friday, August 6

Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Saturday, August 7

Saturday of the 18th Week in Ordinary Time

Mass at 7:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 10:00 a.m.

Mass at 12:00 p.m.

Live-Streamed Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Sunday, August 8

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses at 6:00/8:00/10:00a/12:00/6:00p

Live-Streamed Mass at 10:00 a.m.

Cathedral closed after each Mass

Scripture Reflection

"Whoever comes to me will never hunger . . ." (John 6:35).

Stewardship of Treasure

Offertory Collection

7/12 – 7/19

Sunday Offering	\$ 4,472.78
Weekday Mass	\$ 963.38
Online Giving	\$ 1,563.69
Other Feasts & Solemnities	\$ 40.00
Total Offertory	\$ 7,039.85

Other Collection

Repair & Maintenance	\$ 1,310.46
Diocesan Seminarian Education Fund	\$ 100.00
Others (Gallery, Candles, Outreach, etc.)	\$ 850.75
Total	\$ 9,301.06

Living the Liturgy

- Ask someone who has been through a life-changing experience that worked out for the better if, during the transition, they ever were tempted to "go back" to the previous way of being.
- Take a jar or clay pot and label it "Fleshpot of Egypt." Whenever you feel tempted to be less than you know God calls you to be, write down the temptation and put it in the pot.
- Make unleavened bread with your family. Different cultures use different grains for the flour, and there are numerous recipes available on the Internet that include spices, onions, peppers, and other interesting added ingredients. Because flatbreads have no leavening agent and don't need to rise, they don't take very long to make. Talk about how the Israelites left Egypt in a hurry and so they made flatbread because they didn't have time for the bread to rise. Point out that the shape of the host that we receive in the Eucharist is flat.

Sharing the Faith

- Was it unreasonable for the crowds to pursue Jesus because he had filled their stomachs with bread? Why is he disappointed by that?
- What are the "fleshpots" in your life that call you backward into your former self and hinder your forward movement into the new life God has planned?
- Have you ever asked God for one thing and been given another, only to find that it was what you were given that you really needed? How does it feel to have your real needs satisfied?

Saint of the Week

Prayer never leaves us without sweetness. It is honey that flows into the souls and makes all things sweet. When we pray properly, sorrows disappear like snow before the sun. - St. John Vianney (1786-1859), Confessor, Patron of Parish Priests, Feast Day August 4.

Aug. 1, 2021 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exegesis on this Sunday's readings

Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15 | Psalm 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54 | Ephesian 4:17, 20-24 | Alleluia: Cf. Matthew 4:4b | John 6:24-35

One thing is certain, and two things are assured: God provides for all our needs, and when God does, it seldom looks like what we expected. Israel knew Elijah would return before the coming of the Messiah, but what they got was John the Baptist. They knew God would send a Messiah, but they got a humble carpenter born in a stable, not a high-born general or king. They knew God sends bread from heaven, but Jesus tells them not to look for hearth-baked loaves. "I am the bread of life," he says (John 6:35). This is shocking, disappointing talk that will bring him more trouble than followers. The key to being a friend of Jesus — now, as well as then — is remaining open to the unexpected. If God is God, then his ways will not be like ours. We often make the mistake of creating God in our own image, and God constantly pulls the rug from under us.

But what God gives, though surprising, always exceeds our expectations. The desert manna Jesus' crowd desired was nothing compared to the bread Jesus would give. But in order to receive it, the crowd had first to let go of their expectations that narrowed the possibilities of what God could do for them, and in their place embrace the incredible, unimaginable abundance of God's surprising love. In the desert, the Israelites received "flesh" each night and "bread" each morning (Exodus 16:8). Now, Jesus turns his own flesh into bread that endures and satisfies forever.

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Next Sunday's Readings: "19th Sunday in Ordinary"

1 Kings 19:4-8 | Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 | Ephesian 4:31-5:2 | Alleluia: Cf. John 6:51 | John 6:41-51

From the Rector's Desk

Dear Cathedral Basilica Ohana,

Greetings of peace, love, and joy!

Jesus, the Bread of Life

The Bread of Life discourses starts this Sunday. The Gospel account on the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand men last Sunday is a prequel to the events and discussions of Jesus' teachings on the bread of life. This Gospel is one of those astonishing chapters and verses found in the Gospel of John. As the story goes, Jesus says, "I am the Bread of Life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." If we listen to these words of Jesus in His time, it will make us wonder what it will mean for us. We may take it as something so wonderful to hear, but we will just be thinking about the bread to eat in our minds. But in truth, the statement leads us into a deeper reflection of Jesus' act of performing the "sign," which is the multiplication of the five barley loaves and two fish.

After the miracle, the crowd wants to make Jesus king. For them, it is a sign of high expectation that someone among them can provide food. Jesus slips away from them. The people did not understand the "sign." They continue to pursue Him that He may give everyday food for them. Though He freed Himself with His disciples from the crowd, they still find Him. They seek Him out only for one reason: they have been given a lot of bread, gratuitously and without cost, and they hope to continue being fed like this for long without having to work. This is not supposed to be how things would go. What Jesus tries to instill in the people's minds is to recognize the gifts they have that are to be shared with everyone. We remember that a boy shares his five barley loaves and two fish.

Jesus knew what the crowd or the people had in mind, so He took this moment to teach them about the Real Food that satisfies hunger. Thus, the discussion goes to an extent. The people seek the bread that gives life to the world. They plead to Him to give this bread always. Thus, Jesus says the words, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." The people wondered what this would mean for them, but Jesus knows that they seek only the physical hunger that can be satisfied by eating something, bread, for that matter. They find Jesus just for the bread and maybe the fish too that they did not get the whole picture of what He did for them.

For our reflection this Sunday, we may ask ourselves what do we seek from the Lord? Do we look for Him to answer and provide all our needs? Do we find Him for the right purpose? Do we understand the meaning of the sign of the bread? Or, are we like the crowd who keep looking for Jesus only for the food that gives temporary satisfaction?

May you open up your heart, especially during these difficult times to share whatever you have for those who are needy, physically and spiritually.

Your friend in Jesus,

Fr. Pascual