

July 29, 2018

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

From the Desk of Rev. Anthony Columba Ekanem, MSP:

It is amazing that we are celebrating today the last Sunday in the month of July? We are more than half way through summer. Next month schools begin and September 3rd, Labor Day marks the end of summer vacation.

For the next four Sundays the Gospel readings will come from Chapter six of St John's Gospel. John has no account of the Eucharist. But this chapter compensates for that important miracle, **multiplication of the loaves**. The miracle described in the First reading shows God's concern for his people during a time of famine. The bread in question was the bread of the first – fruits, which were meant to God. But instead of offering it to God, Elisha, the prophet of the old covenant, gave it to the people. The left – overs, stress God's generosity.

Like Elisha, Jesus, the prophet of the new covenant, feeds hungry people, and does so even more astonishingly. There are clear Eucharistic overtones in the way the miracle is related. Jesus **'took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them** to the people. Such language is meant to remind us of that he did at the Last Supper, and this is what happens every time we celebrate the Eucharist. Even though both feedings are miraculous there is an essential human element in each, without which no miracle is possible. Probably many of us are not familiar with the story from first reading, which is such a clear model of what Jesus does in the Gospel. Elisha is totally convinced of what God has of him. Jesus has total confidence in his Heavenly Father.

There three lessons we must learn from these miracles

.. **Compassion of Elisha and Jesus** towards their flock and the community is very clear. Compassion always moves Jesus to do something great for his people.

.. **God transforming something little into something great** is very obvious, rather than stand there to argue and doubt like the disciples of Elisha and Jesus.

.. **Generosity of the small boy in Jesus' miracle made him an hero.** The small boy offered what he had towards their flock and community.

Our question today is how do we respond to the needs of our community and family especially when there is not enough resources to carry on? How is strong is our spirit of charity, compassion, gentility, humility, generosity, and patience towards one another?

Are we prepared to go out of our way to show concern towards another especially when things seem impossible?

Collection : The collection for last Sunday, July 22, 2018 was \$ 3,418

2018 Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal: Our Goal this year \$41,000.00 our parishioners so far have pledged \$27,216.52 and have already contributed \$26,232.52 to the campaign

Today's Focus: Using What We Have :

As was the case with Jesus during his earthy ministry, We can also take the basic things of life that God provides and use them to transform the lives of those around us.

Living and Praying with the world

Giver of all that is good, thank you for the gift of life this day. Help me to live it in your service and thus to feed others so that they know that you are near.

Food Collection: Next Sunday August 5, 2018 we will have monthly food collection for needed in our community. Please remember we only collect non perishable items. Once again for your generosity.

Registration for 2018-2019 Religious Education Program is on going since June 2018 if you still need to register your child there is still time these are the dates to come in and register July 23 to July 30 and in August 4th , 20th and the 27th. -new parents to the program need to bring their child's birth certificate and a copy of the baptismal certificate. There will be a fee of \$25.00 **per child** at the time of registration for both returning parents and new parents to the program which is non-refundable.

Our religious Education Program is on Saturday mornings from 9:20 am to 11: 00 am.

Registration Fees are as follows:

Registration for one child is \$100.00

Registration for two children is \$ 175.00

Registration for three or four children is \$ 200.00

If your child will be receiving one of the following Sacraments the fees are as follows:

Holy Communion fee is \$80.00 **per child.**

Confirmation fee is \$100.00 **per child.**

Pope Francis: *“Prayer is never in vain: it always brings forth something new that, sooner or later, bears fruit.*

Mass Schedule for the week of

July 29, 2018 to August 5, 2018

Mass are daily at 8:15 and 12:05 in English and in Spanish on Thursdays at 7:00pm

Below are the Special Intentions for this week

Sunday July 29th :

7:30 am-for the Parishioners

9:00 am- Tiola Garcia

11:00 am- Jacinto C. Sandoval

Tuesday July 31st:

12:05 pm- Enzo & Guido De Luca

Wednesday August 1st :

8:15 am- Ines and all the Deceased members of The Dougan Family

Thursday August 2nd:

7:00pm- Maria Eralia Vanegas

Friday August 3rd:

11:00 am to 12:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (English)

12:05 pm-Kathleen Mc Ginty (L)

7:00 pm in Spanish the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

7:30 pm Sacred Heart of Jesus

Saturday August 4th:

12:05 pm- Ines and all the Deceased members of The Dougan Family

Vigil 5:00pm- Rose Kunny

Vigil Spanish 7:30 pm- Legion of Mary

Sunday August 5th:

7:30 am- for the Parishioners

9:00 am Efren Gracia Aguilar

11:00 am- Francisco & Claudia Dougan (L)

Parish Membership: All adult Catholics should be registered. We want to know and serve you and hope that you will become an active member of our parish community. Please notify the office of any changes in address, or if you are leaving the Parish. It is necessary to be a registered member of our parish for a minimum of 3 months in order for us to testify to your ability to be a sponsor for Baptism/Confirmation, witness to a Catholic marriage, or provide recommendation for a position at work or character reference.