



17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

ORDINARY
time

Give it to the people to eat'
Elisha insisted 'for the Lord says this, "They will eat and have some left over.

2 Kings 2:44

The prophet Elisha feeds 100 people with 20 barley loaves. Jesus feeds 5,000 people with 5 loaves and 2 fish. The link between the 1st Reading and the Gospel, which is always the pattern of our Sunday readings, could not be clearer.



Gospel of Mark

We have been reading Mark's Gospel since last November.



Last week's Gospel ended with Jesus being faced with a large crowd who did not have enough to eat and Jesus 'setting out to teach them at some length'. But first he satisfied their bodily needed and wanted to feed them with the meagre rations at his disposal, 5 loaves and 2 fish—we know the rest.

The story of the feeding of the 5,000 is one of the few stories common to all the Gospels. Matthew, Mark and Luke tell us the story. But John uses it as the beginning of a long discourse of Jesus as the Bread of Life. It is this chapter 6 of John's Gospel which we will hear over the next 5 weeks.

Gospel of John

St John's Gospel was written much later than Matthew, Mark and Luke. So he writes his Gospel with the perspective of faith lived over many years. He presumes knowledge of the basic stories told by the other Gospel writers and does not repeat all of them.



For example, in his account of the Last Supper, John's Gospel does not mention Jesus taking bread and wine, blessing it saying, 'This is my body, this is my blood'. Instead John gives us a substantial discourse on Eucharist after the story of the feeding of the 5000. The form of the story mirrors what we do at Mass: We

Take • Bless • Break • Eat

We have the next five weeks to think about this great gift of Eucharist, to celebrate it and give thanks for it.

FAITH IN FOCUS: ACTION REPLAY

Think what it was that Jesus did in the sight of the 5,000. He took the bread (and fish). He said a blessing of thanks to God. He broke the bread. And he gave it to the disciples to hand it out.

Ring any bells? Of course it does. Those four actions, (taking, blessing, breaking and giving) are exactly what Jesus did at the Last Supper. After the resurrection the apostles continued to repeat these actions when they gathered together to remember their Lord. And right down to today they are the same actions that Christians perform when they celebrate the Eucharist.

We take the bread and wine. Not only physically presenting it and preparing it on the altar, but also recalling that these elements were given to us first by God and now we refashion them and set them before God.

In a prayer of thanksgiving we then bless God for creating and redeeming us in Christ, and we ask God's blessing upon the bread and wine that by the power of the Holy Spirit it may become for us the body and blood of Christ.

We break the bread that is to be shared in communion. Communion is not first and foremost just about me and God, about my host or wafer. St Paul tells us that the bread is made from grain scattered on the hillside, and that we share in the one loaf and one cup in order to become one body in Christ.

Finally, the priest and other ministers give the body and blood to us in communion. Because we share a unity and peace with each other as brothers and sisters in Christ, we move forward together to eat and drink the food of life, to share communion with God and each other.

These four actions, take-bless-break-give, are the key to understanding what Christians do when they celebrate the Eucharist. Our "Amen" when we receive communion is a sign of our readiness as a community to actually become what we eat: the Body of Christ, the Church.

Next Week.....we will welcome Fr Lambert Nwauzor who will be celebrating our Masses during August and resident in OLMC presbytery.

Adoremus - Holy Hour

Holy Hour next week, 9th August at St Anne's Overbury St at 7.30pm.

Pastoral Associates - New Archdiocesan Initiative

The Archdiocese has long recognised the need for full time lay ministry, employed work in parishes. So in 2019 an Archdiocesan Pilot Scheme for **Pastoral Associates** will begin. A pastoral associate would work in conjunction with parish clergy, volunteers, employees, existing parish groups, other parishioners and the wider community to develop parish and pastoral area life.

Pastoral Areas have been invited to bid for a Pastoral Associate. This Pastoral Area—Liverpool South, has submitted a bid. Decisions as to how many Pastoral Associates will be appointed, and where they will work, will be made in September.

St Patrick: Summer Programme for Children - Begins this

week 30th July to 14 August, Monday to Friday 2-5pm.

Feasts of the Week *Founders of two religious orders both of whom work in this Archdiocese - the Jesuits in St Francis Xavier, Everton and the Redemptorists in Bishop Eton.*

Saint Ignatius of Loyola 14911 – 1556 was a Spanish priest and theologian, Jesuits. The Jesuit order served the Pope as missionaries, and they were bound by a vow of special obedience to the sovereign pontiff in regard to the missions.

St Alphonus Liguori 1696–1787 Italian Catholic bishop, spiritual writer, composer, musician, artist, poet, lawyer, scholastic philosopher and theologian. He founded the Redemptorists.

The Eucharist is food for the journey

We know that if we do not eat we get weak, sick and we will eventually die. If we do not receive the “bread of life” we will get spiritually sick and the life of faith will struggle to stay alive in our hearts. That is why Jesus said: “I am the bread of life. The one who comes to me will never be hungry; the one who believes in me will never thirst.” John 6:34

Pope Francis
“How can we practise the Gospel without drawing the necessary strength to do it, one Sunday after another, from the inexhaustible spring of the Eucharist? We Christians need to participate in Sunday Mass each week because only with the grace of Jesus, with his living presence in us and among us, can we put into practice his commandment to love, and thus be his credible witnesses,” The Eucharist and Mass, he said, are where we find our strength for daily life.
 (13th December 2017)



MASSES AND SERVICES

IN CHURCH THIS WEEK

- Mass at 9am on Monday

Sunday 29th July		
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Sat 5pm	Parishioners	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Rita Ann Oakley	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Fred Keeley	OLMC
Monday 30th July		
9am	Ryan Lloyd	OLMC
Tuesday 31st July		
St Ignatius Loyola		
7pm	Teresa Morrissey	OLMC
Wednesday 1st August		
St Alphonsus de Liguori		
10am	Fr Pat Cassidy	St Patrick
Thursday 2nd August		
10am	Rev D O'Dwyer	St Patrick
Friday 3rd August		
10am	Jimmy Taylor	OLMC
Sunday 5th August		
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Sat 5pm	Joe McNicholas	OLMC
Sun 9.45am	Mary Frances Robinson	St Patrick
Sun 11.15am	Parishioners	OLMC
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Thursday Evening Service 7pm		
Short Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament		OLMC
Sacrament of Reconciliation:		
Saturday 4-4.30pm		OLMC

Bonus Ball / Mount Carmel and St Patrick
 The bonus ball for Wednesday 25th July was no 6
 Winners won £30 each

Collections _____ *Many Thanks*

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
 Envelopes £81.29 Loose £142.77
St Patrick Envelopes £0 Loose £100.88
 Box £15.00 Brick £10.00

Please Pray For.... Those who have died: Denise Gittens, EdJackson.

The sick: Irene Maloney, Betty Flannery, Tony Robinson, Carol Pickford, Betty Billingsley, Tommy Duffy, Audrey McKenna, Ian McCafferty, Betty Christian, Bernard Duffy, Helen Melarange, Jack Davies, Joan Higgins, Michael McNicholas, Billy Thompson, Freya Matheson, Rene Humphreys, Clifford Browne, Gary Hollinson, Jackie Heath-Anderson, Ted Cunningham, Anne Deuchar, Charlotte Rice, Irene Finneran, Lisa Balshaw, Mary Kewley, Claire Kearney, Lyn Barton, Betty Devine, Kathleen Devine, Joseph Baxendale, Ann Chapman, Nadia Kent, Susan Roberts, Alex Sielski, Lee Foster, Denise King, John Dunning, Emily Rolands, Angela Kent, David Majoury, Donald Smith, Pius Laizer, Maria Jones, Mary O'Toole, Sally Wilkins, Michael Murphy, Margaret Chung, David Stevenson, Thomas & John Paul Conroy, Keith Holden, Kathleen Crownly, Joanne Fairbrother, Eileen Edwards, Erin Caulfield, Lisa Ginley, Lillian O'Connor, Owen Hall, Anne Brannigan, Thelma Mainwaring, Cheryl and Lenny Hart, Sheila Chapman, Elaine Gorry, Alexandra Reid, Winifred Williamson, Kathryn Reid, Wally Williams, Chrissy White, Nicholas Maher, John Hodson, Terry Macklin, Muriel Minshull, Maureen Ryan, Mary Ryan, Regna Lewis, David Shea, Steven Binks.