


The Bread of Life

“I AM
the bread of

LIFE”

The Gospel readings for the past few weeks have been from John, Chapter 6. The entire chapter spread over five weeks in the middle of summer is an on-going homily on Jesus as “The Bread of Life.”

We may be listening to the Gospel each week thinking we are hearing the same words. Though John’s sermon on Jesus as the “Living Bread” seems repetitious, we can never spend enough time reflecting on the meaning of the Eucharist. The Gospels, especially John’s, are always deeper than our eyes can see or our ears can hear. From many perspectives John tries to enlighten the community to the CENTRAL FOOD and CELEBRATION of our faith that ...Jesus is “The Living Bread.” *“Anyone who eats this Bread and drinks this Blood shall live forever.”*

The people whom John addressed are very much like ourselves.

- Is the Eucharist the center and heart of our faith? Probably everyone of us who gathers for Sunday Worship can admit that sometimes we take the Eucharist for granted. Like many other activities in our lives, we can slip into a routine that makes each celebration the same as the last one. Therefore, it helps us when the Church, in the selection of our Scripture, focuses our attention on the Eucharist.

The Eucharist is the central celebration of our Catholic Community. It is essential that we ask ourselves, over and over again, **WHY AM I HERE? WHO IS JESUS TO ME?**

- How do I experience the Eucharist as the prayer of our Christian Community, rather than as my personal prayer?

As God’s Word, the Eucharist and the Community feed and nourish us.

- How do we go forth from each Mass to feed and nourish the hungers of others?

Jesus as the Bread of Life, food and strength for our life’s journey, is worth our on-going thought. A challenge to all of us would be to read and reflect on Chapter 6 in St. John’s Gospel. There are many hidden treasures waiting for us to discover in Jesus, in the Eucharist and in our Christian Community of Holy Cross.

The Pastoral Team