

Sunday 04 Aug 2024

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 69:2,6

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.

First Reading

Exodus 16:2-4. 12-15

A reading from the book of Exodus

I will rain bread from heaven upon you.

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, 'Why did we not die at the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our hearts content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day's portion; I propose to test them this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.'

'I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, "Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your hearts content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God.'" And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another,

'What is that?' not knowing what it was. 'That' said Moses to them 'is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 77:3-4. 23-25. 54. R. v.24

(R.) The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

1. The things we have heard and understood,
the things our fathers have told us,
we will tell to the next generation:
the glories of the Lord and his might.

(R.)

2. He commanded the clouds above

and opened the gates of heaven.
He rained down manna for their food,
and gave them bread from heaven.

(R.)

3. Mere men ate the bread of angels.

He sent them abundance of food.
He brought them to his holy land,
to the mountain which his right hand
had won. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:17, 20-24

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Put on the new person that has been created in God's image.

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the
mouth of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 6:24-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according
to John

*Whoever comes to me will never be
hungry; whoever believes in me will never
thirst.*

When the people saw that neither Jesus
nor his disciples were there, they got into
boats and crossed to Capernaum to look
for Jesus. When they found him on the
other side, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when
did you come here?' Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly,
you are not looking for me
because you have seen the signs
but because you had all the bread you
wanted to eat.

Do not work for food that cannot last,
but work for food that endures to
eternal life,
the kind of food the Son of Man is
offering you,
for on him the Father, God himself,
has set his seal.'

Then they said to him, 'What must we do if
we are to do the works that God wants?'
Jesus gave them this answer, 'This is
working for God: you must believe in the
one he has sent.' So they said, 'What sign
will you give to show us that we should
believe in you? What work will you do?
Our fathers had manna to eat in the
desert; as scripture says: He gave them
bread from heaven to eat.'

Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly,
it was not Moses who gave you bread
from heaven,

it is my Father who gives you the
bread from heaven,
the true bread;
for the bread of God
is that which comes down from heaven
and gives life to the world.'

'Sir,' they said 'give us that bread always.'
Jesus answered:

'I am the bread of life.
He who comes to me will never be
hungry;
he who believes in me will never
thirst.'

Communion Antiphon

Wisdom 16:20

You have given us, O Lord, bread from
heaven,
endowed with all delights and sweetness
in every taste.

or

John 6:35

I am the bread of life, says the Lord;
whoever comes to me will not hunger
and whoever believes in me will not thirst.

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