

CALL TO PRAYER

Begin by calling upon God: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Let us pause for a moment, and listen attentively to this week's passage.



THE WORD OF GOD

Matthew 14:13-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. The crowds heard of this and followed him on foot from their towns. When he **disembarked** and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with **pity** for them, and he cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples approached him and said, "This is a deserted place and it is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves." But they said to him, "Five loaves and two fish are all we have here." Then he said, "Bring them here to me," and he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the **fragments** left over – twelve wicker baskets full. Those who ate were about five thousand men, not counting women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord

FAITH SHARING

Questions of the Week

Choose one

1. Remember a time when your faith was challenged. How did you find your way back?
2. "They all ate and were satisfied." In what ways am I unselfish and how do I reach out to those less fortunate than me.
3. Adults always say that children should learn to share their toys. Do you find it hard to share? What toy or item could you share with a friend or classmate?



Thanks to the the Italian Catholic Federation for these questions.

CLOSING PRAYER

God of everlasting goodness, our origin and guide, be close to us and hear the prayers of all who praise you. Forgive our sins and restore us to life. Keep us safe in your love. We ask this, as we ask all things, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

GOSPEL WORD SEARCH

T V L P K D D P R H
 U X I U C E J O X S
 A T I H U K S W O I
 Y H G P R R E D D F
 D G U T E A V K E L
 D Z N E D B A N S S
 N W G I E M O Z E B
 A W I C S E L L R J
 S L W T R S P Z T B
 U T E I H I E B E K
 O I P P C D Z L D R
 H X E S S K R O B M
 T A I L U O E E B A
 V D K C I S G R W T
 F R A G M E N T S T
 S E G A L L I V N H
 C H I L D R E N E E
 C R O W D S J A A W
 Z I U T Z C R Q U N
 T S I T P A B X R R

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| BAPTIST | FRAGMENTS |
| BLESSING | GOSPEL |
| CHILDREN | LOAVES |
| CROWDS | MATTHEW |
| CURED | PITY |
| DESERTED | SICK |
| DISCIPLES | THOUSAND |
| DISEMBARKED | VILLAGES |
| FISH | WICKER |
| FOOD | WITHDREW |

GOSPEL GLOSSARY

To disembark is to get out of a boat.
Pity means to sympathize with someone or feel very sorry for them.
Fragments are pieces.