

18th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:1-3
Ps 145:8-9,15-18
Romans 8:35,37-39
Matthew 14:13-21

Monday August 3

Jeremiah 28:1-17
Ps 119:(68b)29,43,
79,80,95,102
Matthew 14:22-36

Tuesday August 4

Saint John Vianney
Jer 30:1-2,12-15,18-22
Ps 102:16-23,29
Matthew 15:1-2,10-14

Wednesday August 5

Jeremiah 31:1-7
Jer 31:10-13
Matthew 15:21-28

Thursday August 6 Transfiguration of Jesus

Daniel 7:9-10,13-14
Ps 97:1-2,5-6,9
2 Peter 1:16-19
Matthew 17:1-9

Friday August 7

Nahum 2:1,3; 3:1-3,6-7
Deut 32:35-36,39,41
Matthew 16:24-28

Saturday August 8 Saint Dominic

Habakkuk 1:12 -- 2:4
Ps 9:8-13
Matthew 17:14-20

This Sunday's readings make me thirsty and hungry! Can we go out to dinner after Mass?

As we say in the responsorial Psalm, "The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs." Yet, despite knowing this, we think we never have enough. We're not content with what we have.

Even when things go well, we're not fully satisfied. We want more. Especially in relationships. We're starving for more affection, we crave more attention, our guts grumble over not getting enough concern and support and approval from those who should give it to us.

Every person in our lives has been called by God to be a provider of his love for us. But no one loves us perfectly, and some totally reject this calling. If because of this we live in a state of frustration and anger or cynicism or self-protective isolationism, we're always hungry.

When we choose instead to forgive the imperfect people and turn to Jesus, he miraculously multiplies a little into a lot. By keeping our eyes on Jesus rather than on those who fail to love us fully, his love for us fills our hearts to overflowing.



Feeling dissatisfied is a sign that Jesus is trying to get our attention; there's something he wants to give us. But how is he going to give us what we need if we can't see him and feel touched by him?

To feel satisfied by an invisible God, we need to stay closely connected to him in prayer *and* in Christian community. We have to pay attention to what he's doing and through whom he's chosen to do it. That means getting more involved and expecting the unexpected!

Reflect & Discuss:

1. What are you hungry for? Who's not giving you enough of what you need?
2. How can you find other ways of receiving this?
3. Describe a time when God met your needs in an unexpected way. From whom did you expect to get it, and how did it happen that you received it another way?
4. Did you receive more – or less – than what you had wanted? Was it satisfying?