

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.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

01 AUGUST 2021

SHORT MEMORIES AND DEEPEST HUNGERS

God must surely wonder at our capacity to quickly forget how we have been blessed. The people of Israel wasted no time in complaining to Moses about having been brought out of slavery in Egypt! It was not enough that they had seen the army of Pharaoh drowned, or the plagues sent as signs that God was working through Moses. In a similar fashion the people who had seen Jesus heal so many who suffered from sickness, and then feed the multitude, will demand a further sign from Jesus in order that they would believe in him and trust in him as the bread of life!

There is a tremendous tension in these readings between the patience and generosity of God on one hand, and on the other, the ways in which we can fail to appreciate and accept what God is offering us. In time the people in the desert tired even of the quail and manna, just as many of Jesus' contemporaries were unable to accept that he was the bread of life, and the answer to their deepest hunger and needs.

As Paul knew all too well the process of conversion is an ongoing one, a challenge to leave behind our old selves, that is, that which does not answer our most heartfelt needs or engender life. Even though we may recognise that Jesus is the source of our life it can still be a struggle to nurture the new life of Jesus within us because of old patterns of acting or perceiving.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Ex 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 heart's 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 in 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 heart's 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.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP 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

Eph 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, I need 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.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4: 4

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

GOSPEL

Jn 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

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Parish Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 10:00am-3:00pm

Catholic Parish of St Kevin Eastwood



Vigil Mass: Saturday at 5:30pm

Sunday Mass Times: 8am, 9:30am, 11:30am (Chinese) & 6pm

Weekday Masses: Mon – Thurs. 7:30am, Fri 5:00pm

Holy Rosary: Mon – Thu after 7:30am Mass

Eucharistic Adoration: Fri 4:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 5:00-5:20pm

Cenacle Marian Movement of Laity: Thu 7pm

Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Rosary & Novena: Tue 7-7:30pm

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 1st Aug 2021

Recently Deceased: Margaret Ellem

Our Deceased: Maura Mah, Mary Seward, Gladys Atkins, Lucy Ng, Cecilia Tan, John Davidson, Geoff & Patricia Clarke, Jan Brayan, Arch Stewart, John Casey, Roy & Bessie Landon and O' Connor, Landon, Stewart, Pigott and Casey families; Anne Redmond, Desmond Lobo and other deceased members of the Lobo family. Lastly, please pray for all the souls in purgatory.

Our Sick: Sam Wong, Donald Mees, Agnes, Robert Lauw, Tenille Moujalli, June Phelan, Anne McIntyre, Adhy Guna S., Daisy Gouw, Nur Gouw

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS:

St Dominic 3rd Aug, St John Vianney 4th Aug, The Transfiguration of the Lord 6th Aug

PARISH NEWS:

- **All churches across Greater Sydney will remain closed until at least Saturday 28th Aug.**
- **We sincerely thank all the parishioners who are continuously supporting our parish financially during lockdown and all the volunteers involved in the Vigil Mass.**
- **For pastoral care emergencies, reconciliation, and funerals, please contact Fr Martin directly at 0414 841 928 to make COVIDSafe arrangements.**
- **Prayer requests/Mass offerings for the deceased are still accepted.** Send us an email or leave a message at 9874 2533. Donations can be made online via the parish website.
- **Liturgical Rosters have been put on hold due to current lockdown. Fr Martin will contact volunteers to serve at Vigil Mass to continue live streaming our services.**
- **First Holy Communion Info Evening for Parents of registered candidates will be on Wed, Aug 4 at 7pm via Zoom.**
- **To those that requested to collect their tax receipts in the church, it will be available for collection once the church re-opens. If you have changed your mind and would like it to be posted or emailed instead, please contact the parish office.** Thank you.
- Funerals are limited to 10 people, *excluding the person conducting a service for a funeral or any other person necessary for the conduct or preparation of the service.*
- *The parish office is closed until further notice. Please send any enquiries by email: parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au or leave a message at 9874 2533. Thank you.*

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE:

- **Sadly, NO MASSES will be celebrated at Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney on Sun, 8th Aug, Feast Day of St Mary MacKillop.** The Chapel remains closed, Prayer resources are available on the website: <https://www.marymackillopplace.org.au/feast-day-resources>
- **KNOW THAT I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS: NURTURING DISCIPLESHIP IN CHALLENGING TIMES.** Online reflection mornings during lockdown with the Dominican Sisters of St

Cecilia. Dates: Saturdays Aug 7 & 14, 10AM–12PM; Online via Zoom – Register at:

www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events

SUPPORT OUR PRIEST SUNDAY:

As we prepare to celebrate the Feast Day of St John Vianney on Aug 4, we pray for all our priests, especially Fr Martin. Thank you for your dedicated service to our parish community!

FR MARTIN MAUNSELL'S REFLECTION:

COVID 19 - SIGNS of our TIMES!

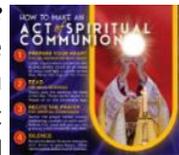
Recently a good friend of mine candidly shared with me what for him was the most difficult experience of this COVID 19 lockdown, it was the virtual prohibition in being able to appropriately touch people.

For generations in Western society, it has been a tradition when shaking a person's hand, it conveyed the sentiment it's nice to see or meet you or after a game conveying some thanks. Or to tap someone on the back or cheek it implied that they're valued. Physical signs often express silent language that's able to convey some healthy enduring life messages to people. I have real doubts when the current lockdown is over that most people will immediately feel comfortable to again relate to others in a healthy tactile way. And if this is the case it will probably accelerate difficult interactive relationships. Of course, some people have always been a bit too presumptuous in being appropriately tactile towards others!

Jesus of Nazareth was often physically tactile in how he related to other people especially when he healed them. It's recalled how he healed the deafness in a man's ear by placing his fingers in his ear. Then he allowed the bleeding woman to openly touch him that then made himself ritually unclean. When we hear the words; *"that he touched the man's ear & healed him"* (Luke Ch22v51) this touching conveyed far more than just a valued physical healing!

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER:

We encourage everyone watching us online to receive Jesus through the Spiritual Communion Prayer: My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already here and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY:

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, contact the Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org or (02) 9390 5810. You may also speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support & guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.