



Liturgy Cycle A

## **Eighteenth Sunday Of The Year** **Feeding The Hungry**

### **Introduction**

The people followed Jesus to a lonely spot, forgetting their food in order to listen to his words and to seek healing for their sicknesses. We have come here to meet Jesus. We too have left aside, if only for a while, our ordinary concerns to listen to Christ's words and to be healed by him.

### **First reading (Isaiah 55:1-3)**

This contains an invitation, addressed to the exiles in Babylon, to come to a banquet at which the food and drink will not be excellent but also free. The banquet stands for life of love and friendship God wishes to share with his people.

### **Second Reading (Romans 8:35.37-39)**

Paul says that no matter what bad times or experiences he may have to go through, he is undaunted, because he is certain that Christ loves him

### **Gospel (Matthew 14:13-21)**

Jesus has compassion on the people. He heals their sick, teaches them at length, and gives them food in abundance.

### **Prayer of the faithful**

Let us pray for the gift to be able to share with others, so that all of God's children may have their daily bread.

**R: Give us this day our daily bread.**

That Christians may realize that by sharing with others, far from being impoverished, they are enriched. We pray to the Lord.

**R: Give us this day our daily bread.**

That the governments of the well-off countries may share their food with the poor countries, so that the hungry of the world may be fed. We pray to the Lord.

**R: Give us this day our daily bread.**



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**For those who are selfish and who are untouched by the pain and the wounds of others. We pray to the Lord.**

**R: Give us this day our daily bread.**

**That we may realize that the Eucharist we are celebrating is the banquet at which Jesus feeds our minds with his words and our hearts with his love. We pray to the Lord.**

**R: Give us this day our daily bread.**

### **Communion Reflection**

**Mother Teresa relates:**

**'In Calcutta we cook for nine thousand people everyday.**

**The day we don't cook, they don't eat.**

**'One day a young couple came to our house**

**'and gave me a large sum of money.**

**"Where did you get so much money?" I asked.**

**'And they replied:**

**"We were married two days ago.**

**"We decided not to have a wedding feast,**

**"and to give the money to the poor instead".**

**' "Why would you do this?" I asked.**

**"Because we love each other**

**"and wanted to begin our married life**

**"with an act of sacrifice", they replied.**

**'Now the amazing thing was this.**

**Both of them were high-caste Hindus**

**'who normally will have nothing to do with the poor'.**