

Sunday 25th July 2021
Jesus Feeds The People



Gather Together...

Take time together as a family, find a quiet space, perhaps play some music, light a candle and sit comfortably.

Make the Sign of the Cross

Listen Together...

Listen to this week's scripture, from the Gospel of John...

Jesus crossed the Sea of Galilee and seeing that a large crowd had followed him along the shore, he turned to Philip and asked, 'Where can we buy some bread to feed these people?' Philip answered, 'Master, it would cost a fortune to give each person even a small piece of bread!'

Then a small boy, with five loaves and two fish was brought to Jesus. 'This is all the food we have!' the disciples said.

'Tell the people to sit down,' Jesus said, and taking the bread and fish, he gave thanks to God then he gave the food out to as many as five thousand people. There was plenty for everyone and when they had finished eating, they filled twelve baskets with the scraps that were left. These people saw and believed that Jesus really was the Son of God.



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Respond Together...

- What did the people on the hillside need that day? They had walked many miles to be with Jesus and they were probably tired, hungry and thirsty. It was miles to the nearest town and, even then, Jesus and his disciples did not have enough money to buy food for so many! The people needed food and Jesus provided it for them.
- How many people were in the crowd that day? The Gospel tells us that as many as five thousand people needed to be fed. The exact number doesn't really matter though. No matter how many were there, the food that they did have could not have fed them all.
- Have you ever shared a meal with a lot of people? Usually at Christmas, birthday celebrations and Easter lots of friends and family gather together to have a meal. A lot of planning and preparation is usually needed to make sure that everyone has enough to eat and drink. Imagine how the disciples must have felt, looking out into the crowds, when Jesus decided they all needed to be fed!
- What did Jesus do with the loaves and fish? He thanked God for his goodness, blessed the food and then shared it with the people.
- When does Jesus feed us? Jesus said, 'I am the Bread of Life. If you eat this bread, I will live in you and you in me.' At the Eucharist meal, Jesus shares himself with us in a very special way, so we can grow in God's love and be filled with joy and goodness.

Pray Together... Lord Jesus, you fed the hungry crowds that day and you feed us with the bread of life. Through the gift of yourself help us to become more like you. Amen.

