

AUGUST 8, 2021
 NINETEENTH SUNDAY
 IN ORDINARY TIME

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Jesus is the bread of life sent down from heaven to feed God's people. And in partaking of this food, we are changed.

In today's Gospel of St. John Jesus is professing that he is the bread of life sent down from heaven, by the Father, so that whoever eats this bread will live forever. It is a pivotal section in Jesus' ministry, because this is the time when many who follow him will find his words too difficult to hear, and will leave him. We don't hear that part yet. What we do hear is the truth and foundation of what we profess and believe when we offer our "Amen" when receiving the body and blood of Christ. Jesus is the bread that came down from heaven. And in partaking of this bread – his body, blood, soul, and divinity, we are changed. We become united with God and his work. We are then sent forward to make God's kingdom present on earth through our own efforts.

The Father who sent the Son has always fed his people – for a greater purpose. The Lord provided manna in the desert to Moses and his people – and they continued on their journey to the Promised Land. In today's first reading from Kings, Elijah is despondent and prays for death. But the Lord provides, sending an angel to rouse him and feed him, that he might continue his forty-day-and-forty-night trek to Mount Horeb. There he will encounter the Lord directly, and be commissioned to go back to his prophetic mission.

In The Holy Eucharist, Jesus gives us himself His Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity as The Food for our souls. He gives us Eternal Life. The Holy Eucharist gives us a new relationship with God. We are united to God the Father through his Son, by the power of Holy Spirit .

*Stand
 firm in
 God's
 grace*
 — 1 PETER 5:12 —



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OFFICE HOURS	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (MON, WED, THU, FRI)
WEEKDAY MASSES	9:00 AM (MON, WED, FRI)
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS	5:00 PM
SUNDAY MASSES	8:00 AM 10:00 AM
HOLY DAY MASSES	9:00 AM 7:00 PM
CONFESSIONS	4:00-4:30 PM, SATURDAY OR BY APPOINTMENT

ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Saturday	August 7
9:30—11 AM	Food Closet Open
5:00 PM	Mass: People of the Parish
Sunday	August 8
8:00 AM	Mass: Dora Stewart-Petecki (RIP)
9:15 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: Continued Healing for Cheryl Verchot
Monday	August 9
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: For the Grandchildren of Mary O'Reilly
6:30 PM	Knights of Columbus Meeting
Wednesday	August 11
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Wodziak & Tarsa Families
Friday	August 13
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory
NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS	
5:00 PM	Open for your Intentions
8:00 AM	Mass: Mike Placella (RIP)
10:00 AM	Mass: Kathleen M. Jubinville (RIP)

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
 A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST

Wedding Anniversary Celebration

The Office of Marriage Preparation & Enrichment is hosting the annual Wedding Anniversary Celebration to honor couples of the Diocese of Providence who will be observing their 25th, 40th, 50th and OVER 50 years wedding anniversaries in 2021. The celebration will be held on Sunday, **September 26, 2021, 1:00PM** at the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul in Providence. Please let the parish know if you will attend so we can make reservations for you.



In 2022, The Diocese of Providence will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of its founding in 1872.

St. Paul's campaign began in April of 2019 and will allow us to accomplish many of our own parish needs while helping raise monies to reach the Diocesan goal. As of today, our Parish has pledged a total of **\$88,745** of our **\$166,788** Parish Goal which puts us a 53% of our Goal.

There are pamphlets available in the narthex with additional information. Pledge envelopes are available in the entrance of the church. Please consider making your pledge today!

Commitment to Sunday Offertory

To help the parish meet its financial obligations, we ask that you remain committed to the weekly offertory.

Please consider using the parish envelopes and mailing your weekly/monthly offertory contribution. Or consider the convenient option of setting up an automatic contribution online.

Second Collection—August 7/8

This weekend our second collection will be used to help with **the cost of air conditioning.**

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection - July 31/ Aug 1
\$ 3,198.00

Peter's Pence Collection - July 31/ Aug 1
\$ 279.00

Thank you for your support!

Catechism Updates

As we prepare our Catechism program, we are reminded how important sharing experiences are with each other. The Knights are planning a Parish Picnic at the end of August to bring everyone together to share a meal, faith and friendship, including some music and reflection. **Please save the Date: Saturday, August 28th**

Christmas Bazaar Raffle

As in years past, we are asking for parishioners who are willing to donate \$25 toward the \$1000 gift card tree. **If you would be able to donate please contact the office or sign up on the bulletin board.** You can leave your donation in an envelope labeled Bazaar either in the office or in the collection box. Thank you for your support!

August Birthdays

Happy Birthday to all parishioners who will Celebrate a birthday in the month of August. May your Birthday be touched with His presence, and your heart be filled with His love and joy!

Living the Liturgy

Inspiration for the week

Are we willing to be taught by God? if we are, then we will begin to see things and make judgments using a Divine lens. Often, we perceive things with purely human eyes and reference points. When we do this, reality can lose its Divine spark and we miss what God is trying to say. When using human eyes exclusively, Jesus is at best perceived simply as a prophet who has some wise things to say. The human element has a difficult time seeing Jesus' divinity and recognizing him as the bread of life that comes down from heaven. We can easily get stuck on Jesus' human associations and overlook the marvelous wonders God wants us to see. If we really allow ourselves to be taught by God, we will then come to see the truth about Jesus and the abundant everlasting life God offers. Jesus becomes the key that unlocks all of our relationships: with God, others, ourselves, and creation. He, as the true and lasting bread from heaven, shows us the gifts of faith, hope, and love that God bestows on us. Through this divine lens we see that all life sparkles and glows with God's love.

ORDER OF MASS

After the Introductory Rites, the first main part of the Mass is the **Liturgy of the Word**, the "service" of God's word. In the Catholic tradition, "When the Sacred Scriptures are read in the Church, God himself speaks to his people, and Christ, present in his word, proclaims the Gospel" (General Instruction of the Roman Missal, no. 29). In fact, "the Church has always held the divine scriptures in reverence no less than it accords to the Lord's body itself, never ceasing—especially in the sacred liturgy—to receive the bread of life from **the one table of God's word and Christ's body**, and to offer it to the faithful" (Dei Verbum §26, Second Vatican Council's Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation). In other words, when we hear the readings from the Bible at Mass, it is God who speaks to us—it is Christ who is present among us.

THE MASS PARTS IN OUTLINE

Introductory Rites

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading
Responsorial Psalm
Second Reading
Gospel Acclamation
Gospel
Homily (Sermon)
Profession of Faith
Universal Prayer

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Concluding Rite

This understanding of the **one table of Christ's word and body**—this unity of Scripture and Eucharist—helps us see that at Mass God feeds us in multiple ways. "During most of the year, the first reading is from the Old Testament and the second reading is from one of the New Testament letters. During Easter Time, the first reading is taken from the Acts of the Apostles. The Responsorial Psalm is sung between these readings. The psalm helps us to meditate on the word of God. The last reading is always taken from one of the four Gospels" (USCCB website). Somewhere in all these words inspired by the Holy Spirit—even before we hear the homily/sermon!—God is speaking to us as a community and as individuals. Even if it's a phrase, or just one word, God has something to say to you at every Mass. So, pray and be listening for that word which God has meant for you.