

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 1, 2021

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

235 North Front St. New Bedford, MA 02746

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat., July 31st--18th Sunday Ordinary Time

4:00 PM +Helena Bodzioch
(birthday & anniversary)
Req. Daughter, Ann

Sun., Aug. 1st--18th Sunday Ordinary Time

10:00 AM +Jennie Kondziolka
Req. Daughter, Nancy

Monday, Aug. 2nd--Our Lady of the Angels

7:30 AM +Gladys & +Alphonse Szala
Req. Daughter, Andrea

Tuesday, August 3rd--Weekday

7:30 AM OLPH Parish Family
Living & Deceased

Wednesday, August 4th--St. John Vianney

7:30 AM +William J. Hoder

Thurs., Aug. 5th--Dedication of St. Mary Major Basilica

7:30 AM +Fr. Roman Chwaliszewski, OFM Conv.
Req. Nancy K.

Friday, August 6th--Transfiguration of Our Lord

7:30 AM +Jacqueline Calixte
Req. Margarete & Clifford Calixte

Saturday, August 7th--Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30 AM +Walter & +Helen Palys
Req. Family

Sat., Aug. 7th--19th Sunday Ordinary Time

4:00 PM +Janice Mello (15th anniv.)
Req Sister, Pat Monteiro & Fam

Sun., Aug. 8th--19th Sunday Ordinary Time

10:00 PM +Alice & Fred Nazarchyk
Req. Laura & Kathy Rusinoski

THIS WEEK OUR CHURCH CELEBRATES...

Our Lady of the Angels (August 2nd), the small chapel that is considered the cradle of the Franciscan Order.

It is where St. Francis of Assisi gained a more vivid understanding of his own vocation, where he convened annual meetings of the friars, and where he spent his final earthly moments and passed into eternity. This is an important feast day for all Franciscans and is celebrated in Franciscan churches throughout the world.

St. John Vianney (August 4th), who, just 3 years after his ordination to the priesthood, was appointed pastor of the parish in Ars. Realizing that, as a result of the Revolution, many knew little about religion, he labored tirelessly to instruct the people in the Faith.

Typically, he spent 11 to 12 hours a day—and in the summer months, 16 hours—in the confessional, reconciling the people with God. As his fame spread, people traveled great distances to confess to him. It is said that he received up to 20,000 pilgrims every year.

Dedication of St. Mary Major (August 5th), the largest church in the world honoring God through Mary.

It is one of the four Roman basilicas known as patriarchal churches in memory of the first centers of the Church: St. John Lateran represents Rome, the See of St. Peter; St. Paul Outside the Walls, the See of Alexandria, thought to have been presided over by St. Mark; St. Peter's, the See of Constantinople, and St. Mary's, the See of Antioch, where Blessed Mother is supposed to have spent most of her later life.

THE PORTIUNCULA INDULGENCE, a plenary indulgence—a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins— may be obtained from noon on August 1st to 11:59 p.m. on August 2nd by visiting any church where the Franciscans minister, *e.g.*, OLPH.

To receive this indulgence—for oneself or for someone else (living or deceased)—one is also required to go to confession within a few weeks before or after August 2nd; also, go to Mass and receive Holy Communion on the Feast Day; pray the Our Father, recite the Creed, and pray for the intentions of Pope Francis—all on August 2nd.

A DAY WITH MARY—will be in the lower church of St. Anne’s Shrine (818 Middle Street, Fall River) Saturday, August 7th, from 8:10 a.m. until about 2:45 p.m.

The day will be a time of instruction, devotion, and intercession, based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. Mass will begin at 10:30, and confessions will be available during the day.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for August 13th, the second Friday of the month, when OLPH will again participate from 9 a.m. until noon in the diocesan-wide “40 Hours” of prayer during the exposition of Jesus on the altar.

A BIG “THANK YOU” to Kathy Kalisz, Kathy Gioiosa, Fran Motyl, and Vivian Medeiros, who staffed the Polish food sale Saturday morning. And another giant “thank you” to Phil Paleologos, who spreads the word about our food sales so enthusiastically on his radio program on WBSM.

Brothers and Sisters of Our Parish Family,

On Friday the 6th, the Church will celebrate **the Transfiguration of our Lord** on Mount Tabor—one of Jesus’ miracles that we find in the Gospels. But this miracle is unique in that it happens to Jesus Himself.

In the Gospel accounts, Jesus, accompanied by Peter, James, and John, goes to Mount Tabor, where He begins to shine with bright rays of light. And the prophets Moses and Elijah appear and speak to Him. Jesus is then called “Son” by a voice in the sky.

The Transfiguration of our Lord is seen as a manifestation of the Holy Trinity: of the Son in the Person of Jesus; the Holy Spirit in the bright overshadowing cloud; and the Father in the voice from the cloud.

The Transfiguration was heaven’s way of revealing Christ’s divinity in full splendor to those present.

And now, at every celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, with the eyes of faith we behold Christ, the Risen King of Glory, who is present to us.

And it is not only Christ who is transfigured; every time we participate in Holy Mass, Jesus allows *us* to be transfigured with Him when we receive Him in Holy Eucharist.

Peace and Blessings,
Father Conrad

Bread of Life

Last week's stories about bread take a very different turn this week. In today's Gospel, Jesus uses the bread theme as a metaphor. Here bread symbolizes the teachings of Jesus that will nourish us, that will satisfy our deepest needs. Jesus employs a method of interpretation favored by the rabbis of his day. He refers to a passage from the religious tradition (the passage that happens to be the first reading for today), and then, step by step, explains its meaning for the people of his day. His "homily" is really a response to the challenge from those who demanded a sign that would give evidence of the authority with which he spoke.

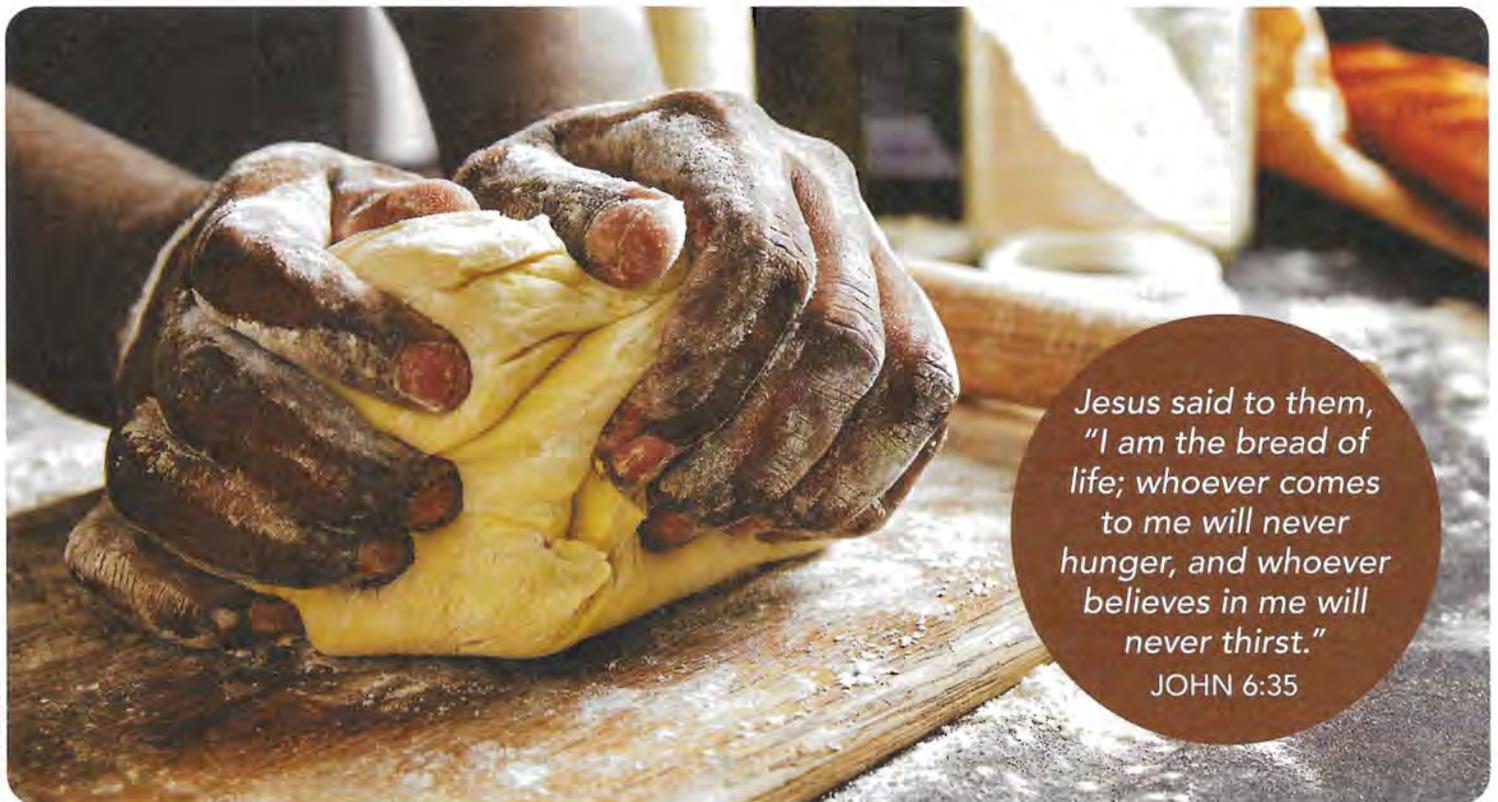
Those who challenged Jesus did so after they had been filled by the bread that he earlier miraculously provided. Jesus knew they weren't looking for signs of the presence of God in their midst. They simply wanted more food.

Jesus pointed out that the people of Moses' time had been called to trust that, day by day, God would provide them with food—as impossible as that might have seemed. Likewise, Jesus' hearers were called to trust his claims about his unique relationship with God, whom he called Father—as impossible as that might have seemed. This really isn't a story just about bread—the edible kind or the eucharistic kind. It is a story about believing in Jesus and accepting his teaching about the bread from heaven that promises eternal life.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ Give thanks for God's day-by-day care for you and your loved ones.
- ★ Pray for a deep and solid trust in God.



*Jesus said to them,
"I am the bread of
life; whoever comes
to me will never
hunger, and whoever
believes in me will
never thirst."*

JOHN 6:35

Dear Padre,

My elderly aunt is suffering from a terminal illness, and says she wants to die. Is this all right?

Popular psychological writings on death and dying often list the five different stages that people might go through when they are dying, namely: denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance. For Christians, the last stage of acceptance is saying yes to God's will. They may have been reconciled to God and others, said the things they have wanted to say, finished any unfinished business, and feel ready to leave this world and return to God.

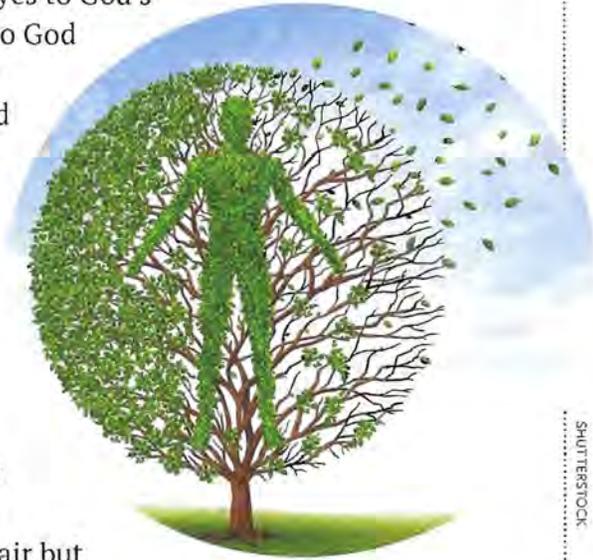
For the dying person with faith, there may come a time when the desire to be fully united to her loving God takes priority over all other concerns and she actually desires to die. Her eyes turn toward the next life and she is not only ready to go but desires to go. This desire to leave this life is not the result of despair but rather the fruit of Christian hope.

We have a different situation when someone is not dying or is in good physical health, for the desire to die may indicate desperation or depression rather than acceptance and hope. Such persons may need personal and professional help to regain a zest for the life God has given them until the time comes that God calls them to himself.

From *Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices*, © 2011 Liguori Publications

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to share your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Dear brothers and sisters who are ill, your sickness makes you in a particular way one of those "who labor and are burdened," and thus attract the eyes and heart of Jesus. In him, you will find light to brighten your darkest moments and hope to soothe your distress. He urges you: "Come to me."

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK, FEBRUARY 11, 2020

Calendar

Monday

AUGUST 2

Weekday

Nm 11:4b-15

Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday

AUGUST 3

Weekday

Nm 12:1-13

Mt 14:22-36 or

Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday

AUGUST 4

St. John Vianney,

Priest

Nm 13:1-2, 25-14:1,

26-29a, 34-35

Mt 15:21-28

Thursday

AUGUST 5

Weekday

Nm 20:1-13

Mt 16:13-23

Friday

AUGUST 6

*Transfiguration
of the Lord*

Dn 7:9-10, 13-14

2 Pt 1:16-19

Mk 9:2-10

Saturday

AUGUST 7

Weekday

Dt 6:4-13

Mt 17:14-20

Sunday

AUGUST 8

*Nineteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

1 Kgs 19:4-8

Eph 4:30-5:2

Jn 6:41-51

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