



Daily Reflections

April 19, 2018

Scripture

John 6: 44-51

Jesus said to the crowds:

"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draw him, and I will raise him on the last day.

It is written in the prophets:

They shall all be taught by God.

Everyone who listens to my Father and learns from him comes to me.

Not that anyone has seen the Father

except the one who is from God;

he has seen the Father.

Amen, amen, I say to you,
whoever believes has eternal life.

I am the bread of life.

Your ancestors ate the manna in the desert, but they died;

this is the bread that comes down from heaven

so that one may eat it and not die.

I am the living bread that came down from heaven;

whoever eats this bread will live forever;

and the bread that I will give

is my Flesh for the life of the world."

Our Scripture Reflection

The members of the crowd really missed the meaning of what Jesus was doing on their behalf. Yes, He had fed 5000 of them with a very small amount of bread and fish. They loved having their hungry bellies filled full but they missed the point of it all. The bread and fish were "appetizers". The main course, the everlasting course, was going to be His very Presence as the Bread of Life. We are so much like them when we become quickly satisfied with the material realm and fail to seek the spiritual. Jesus wants us to have the most, the best, His very Self. Why should we settle for less?

Food for your Journey

Yesterday I visited one of our dear friends of this parish in the hospital. The word from the doctor was not good. The days ahead for him are hidden in a cloud, but in that cloud there is a glory, and already he is living in it. Yesterday morning he awoke to find a note from the night nurse pinned to his pillow: "I did not want to wake you," she had written, "but I want to thank you for our talk last night. It meant more to me than I can tell you." The talk was about her life, her sorrows and some of the tragedies that had come her way and of her many, many years away from God. In the night season they had talked of these things. Out of his faith and through his waves of pain, our friend spoke simply of the Lord he knows and trusts and loves. In the wilderness of the night before last at Akron General Hospital the Word of God came.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, How small minded and petty we can be! You offer us Your glorious Presence yet we content ourselves with mere crumbs. Give us a longing and a hunger so deep that we will wake up and realize that only Your love can fill us up. Amen