February 19, 2019

Scripture

Mark 8: 14-21
The disciples had forgotten to bring bread, and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. Jesus enjoined them, “Watch out, guard against the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod.”
They concluded among themselves that it was because they had no bread. When he became aware of this he said to them, “Why do you conclude that it is because you have no bread? Do you not yet understand or comprehend? Are your hearts hardened?
Do you have eyes and not see, ears and not hear?
And do you not remember, when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many wicker baskets full of fragments you picked up?” They answered him, “Twelve.”
“When I broke the seven loaves for the four thousand, how many full baskets of fragments did you pick up?” They answered him, “Seven.” He said to them, “Do you still not understand?”

Our Scripture Reflection
Mark records the most negative picture of the apostles. They are clueless, stubborn, hard-hearted, hard-headed and cowardly. Upon seeing a powerful miracle performed by Jesus, they scratch their heads and wonder who He is? Why does Mark write this way? Perhaps as a way of teaching us 2019 years later than we can be so much like our ancestors in faith. We, like they, need all the Grace that God will grant us.

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**Food for your Journey**

There is a new expression making the rounds: "He's 404." It is computer jargon for someone who is clueless, for someone who just doesn't get it or see it, for someone for whom the kingdom of God has come close.

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**A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear God, Even though I like to think of myself as a disciple of Your Son, I am weak and I have failed Him. I ask this day for the Grace to become strong and more resolute. Make me strong when I am weak and pick me up when I fall. Amen