May 7, 2019

Scripture

John 6: 30-35
The crowd said to Jesus:
"What sign can you do, that we may see and believe in you? What can you do? Our ancestors ate manna in the desert, as it is written: He gave them bread from heaven to eat." So Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." So they said to Jesus, "Sir, give us this bread always." 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."

Our Scripture Reflection

Materialism is a deadly disease that is much more problematic than simply loving stuff. Materialism is a belief system which holds that what I see is all that there is. If I can’t see, touch, smell, hear, hold, and taste something,
then it has no meaning. The crowds in today’s Gospel reading were all too happy to have had their hunger satiated. But they failed to recognize Who it was that fed them and why He did so. Because of their lack of faith, their lives would always be filled with anxiety, doubt, greed, lust, envy, jealousy and pride. It is in our emptiness, our true hunger that God gives us the opportunity to experience His Presence and that Peace the world cannot give.

Food for your Journey

Help me, O God,
To live the recipe
before I give the recipe.
Give me the kneading strength
to work the words into the doughy recesses
of my life.
Help me to leave it alone a while
so it can rise.
Help me not to fear the oven
so it can bake.
And grant that in the baking,
the world would be able to roll down its
window and savor
the aroma of freshly baked bread ....
-- Ken Gire,
Windows of the Soul
(Grand Rapids, Mi.: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996), 190.

A Prayer from the Heart
Dear God, Help me to wake up and realize that in this very materialistic society in which I live, my true longing is for You. Amen