

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Dearly beloved:

Next Sunday, June 11th is the First Sunday after Pentecost. The Gospel reading for this Sunday talks about how we can seek eternal life and how God can satisfy the spiritual hunger in our hearts. Jesus and His disciples have escaped from the crowds, after feeding five thousand People near the sea of Tiberias. Again, a large crowd followed Him. He told them that they are not looking for him not because you saw miraculous signs but because your hunger has been satisfied. In effect, Jesus is saying that while our forefathers ate the manna in the desert, Jesus gave them bread from heaven to eat.

The Jews had always regarded the manna in the wilderness as the bread of God. There is a strong Rabbinic belief that when the Messiah comes He would give manna from heaven. Then Jesus declared, "I am the Bread of Life – he who comes to Me will never go hungry, and he who believes in Me will never be thirsty. This is the true bread which can truly satisfy the hunger in our hearts.

Miracles are not the important criteria, but miracles help to believe; and so believe even without seeing miracles. We have to seek the kingdom of God. Believe in Jesus Christ, He is the Bread of Life, and have full faith in Him.

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the bread of life – You alone can satisfy the hunger in our heart”.

Please read the following Bible verses, in preparation for this Sunday's commemoration.

Bible readings for Sunday, June 11th, 2006.

(First Sunday After Pentecost)

Before Holy Qurbana:

Genesis	-	41: 38-40
Exodus	-	12: 31-40
Joshua	-	5: 9-12
Jeremiah	-	29: 10-16

Holy Qurbana

General Epistles:	Acts	- 17: 10-15
Epistles of St. Paul:	II Corinthians	- 5: 16-26
Holy Gospel:	St. John	- 6: 26-35

With prayers,
Thomas Alex