

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 16TH 2006.

Dearly beloved:

Next Sunday, July 16th is the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost. The Holy Gospel reading for this Sunday is about the miraculous feeding of Four Thousand people with seven loaves of bread and some fish. They all ate and were satisfied, leaving seven basketfuls. This feeding the multitude is also known as the “miracle of the loaves and fishes”.

Similarly, last Sunday’s Holy Gospel reading was about the miraculous feeding of five thousand people with five loaves of bread and two fishes; leftovers were twelve basketfuls. Before feeding the crowd, Jesus praised and thanked God and blessed the bread. In the multiplication of the bread and fishes, we see a sign and a symbol of what God always does. God knows our needs and He cares. When God gives, He gives in abundance and until we are satisfied.

In Genesis, Abraham wanted to have one son but God gave him descendants like stars in the heaven and the sand in the seashore. God gave him more than he asked for. God’s blessing is unlimited and overflowing like the ocean. The Gospel account records that the leftovers from the miraculous meal was more than seven times the amount they began with. He nourishes us with his life-giving word and with the bread of heaven.

Lord, give us the true bread of heaven and nourish us with your life-giving word”.

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

Bible readings for Sunday, July 16th, 2006.

(Sixth Sunday After Pentecost)

Before Holy Qurbana:

Exodus	-	3: 34-38
Psalms	-	20: 1-9
Isaiah	-	14: 22-27

Holy Qurbana

General Epistles:	Acts	-	1: 15-20
Epistles of St. Paul:	I Corinthians	-	8: 1-6
Holy Gospel:	St. Matthew	-	15: 32-39

With prayers,
Thomas Alex