

ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE

At Home with Faith

Just as he invited the disciples to feed the multitudes, Jesus invites us to participate in his creative and saving work. If we are faithful and answer his call, God will help us accomplish whatever mission he gives us.

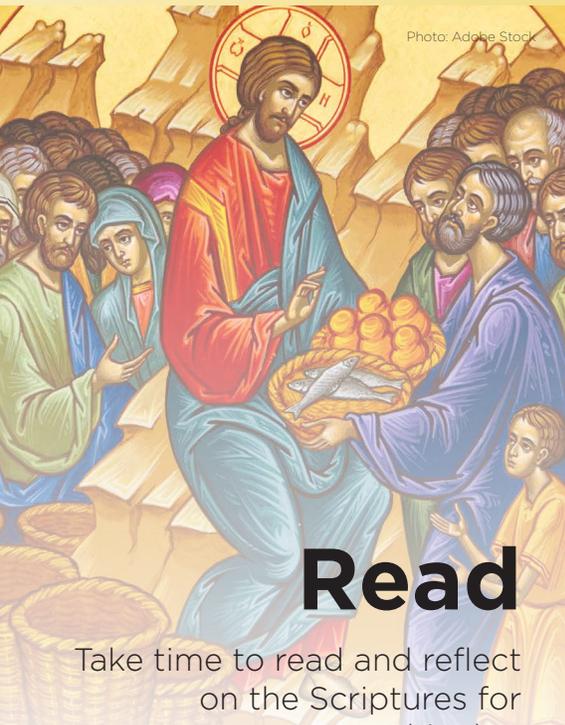


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Read

Take time to read and reflect on the Scriptures for this day.

Don't have access to a Bible?

Visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings or download an app such as *Laudate* or *iBreviary* to access the Mass readings.

Jesus' feeding of the multitudes in this Sunday's Gospel provides us a close up look at God's providence, through which he protects and governs all things. It also illustrates how God invites us as his children to participate in the care of creation.

How privileged the apostles were to be invited by Jesus to feed the multitudes! Though they did not know how they could accomplish Jesus' mission of feeding the multitudes, the disciples still followed Jesus' instructions. Then, as he so often does, Jesus provides the disciples the assistance to accomplish their mission in ways they did not expect.

2 Kings 4:42-44

God provides the hungry food, through his servants.

Psalms 145

The hand of the Lord feeds us, he answers all our needs.

Ephesians 4:1-6

Live in a manner worthy of the call you have received.

John 6:1-15

Jesus feeds the multitudes.

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Talk

Here are some reflection questions to help you have **Great Conversations** with the whole family.

Encourage your children to answer God's call to participate in his creative work:

- **Describe a time that you felt that God was calling you to do something.** As a child, I remember feeling like God wanted me to help make our world more peaceful and just. When doing marriage preparation, I also remember feeling like God was calling me to help love and support the woman I was going to marry. Share with your family when you had a sense that God was calling you to some kind of mission.
- **Invite your child to ask God what he might be calling them to do.** Ask your child if they think that God might be calling them to help in his ongoing work of creation in some way. Let them know that they can always pray to God for help in knowing how he would like them to help in his work.
- **Encourage them to be patient.** Sometimes they will have a sense of God's call early in life. Sometimes it takes time. Some great saints like St. Francis took time to figure out God's plan for them. .
- **Let them know that God will help them accomplish their mission.** If it's truly part of God's plan for them, he will help them accomplish the mission he gives them. Encourage your child to keep those lines of communication open with God and to count on his help.



From the very beginning, God created human beings to **participate in his ongoing work of creation.**

"It is clear from the very first pages of the Bible that work is an essential part of human dignity; there we read that 'the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it' (Gen 2:15). Man is presented as a laborer who works the earth, harnesses the forces of nature and produces 'the bread of anxious toil' (Ps. 127:2)', in addition to cultivating his own gifts and talents"

Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love) # 23

From the very beginning, God created human beings to participate in his ongoing work of creation. Whether we are caring for our families, producing goods and services for our community or caring for the Earth, God invites us to see ourselves as collaborators in his creative work.

In many ways, Jesus' feeding of the multitudes is a reminder of how we should think about our vocation in family life. Sometimes the work seems beyond our capabilities, but if we are faithful and do what Jesus calls us to do, he will help us accomplish the mission he has given us.

For more resources, visit us online at:

<https://marriagefamilylife.seattlearchdiocese.org/athomewithfaith>