

ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH WASHINGTON ST. CORK

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Weekday Mass Times

Monday – Saturday: 8.30, 9.30, 11.00, 4.00pm.
Divine Mercy Mass: Monday at 8.00pm.

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 8.00pm.
Sunday: 10.30, 11.30, 1.00pm
Polish Mass: 9.00, and 6.00pm.

Augustinian Devotions

Purgatorial Society: Monday 11.00am.
Mother of Good Counsel Novena Prayers
Friday, 10.35am and 3.35pm.
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:
Thursday, after 11.00 Mass - 4.00pm.
St. Rita Novena Prayers: Saturday after 11.00 Mass
Mass for the Sick: Saturday, 4.00pm
Rosary: Monday - Saturday, 10.35am and 3.35pm.

CONFESSIONS

Mon. - Fri. 11.30 -12.15, and 4.30pm -5.30pm
Sat. 11.30 -1.00pm; 3.00pm - 4.00pm; 4.30-5.30pm
and 7.15- 7.45pm.
Eve of First Friday: 11.30 -1.00pm; 3.00 - 4.00pm
4.30pm -5.30pm

One evening an old Cherokee Indian told his grandson about a “battle” that goes on inside people. He said “My son the “battle” is between 2 “wolves” inside us all.
One is Evil. It is anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, false pride and ego.
The other is Good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, generosity, compassion and faith.
The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather: “Which wolf wins?”
The old Cherokee simply replied, “The one you feed.”

18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

03. 08. 08

If you travel to the ruins of the ancient city of Ephesus, in Turkey, you will see “wagon wheel” symbols carved in the doorways of the homes of the early Christians. These eight-spoked wheels were a secret, Christian symbol made by drawing a circle and slicing it into quarters and then into eights. It looks like a pizza. The marks are a combination of the letters IXOYE, which spell the word “fish”. These letters also stand for “Jesus Christ Son of God Saviour”.

After Jesus fed 5,000 people with only two fish and five loaves, it is no wonder that a fish would become the Christian symbol, reminding followers of that great miracle. This story in today's Gospel and other fishing references we hear in the scriptures are continuing reminders of Jesus' ministry among us.

Today's Gospel challenges us to trust in God's unfailing abundance. When there is not enough, it's because someone isn't sharing or someone isn't noticing the plenty all round us. Let us call on God's mercy for those times when we fail to trust that God will provide what we need.

For those who are hungry and thirsty in the world, especially those close to home. May they be satisfied.

For the sick. That they may experience the healing touch of the Lord.

For those who hunger and thirst for justice. May they be raised to new life in the Lord.

HAVE YOU EATEN

In the native language of Taiwan, a common everyday greeting is not “How are you?” or “What's up?” but an expression that's literally translated, “Have you eaten?”

It's a beautiful, humane tradition. Think of it: The first thing one person asks another, upon meeting, is whether that person has had enough to eat. Would that we could ask such a question, more often, in so many ways, in our culture!

SHARING

Many visitors to Pennsylvania, stop at one of the “family-style” restaurants that operate in the Amish tradition. Those who do so are often surprised to find themselves seated not at a small table with only those people they've come in with, but with complete strangers. Side dishes are delivered not in little individual dishes, but in huge, steaming portions in communal bowls.

This arrangement forces strangers to talk to one another, and as they frequently find they have much in common. Before they know it, they're laughing, sharing jokes and stories and generally having a good time.

It's the food that does it. There's something powerful about the experience of eating together. Jesus and his disciples found it to be true on that hillside long ago, where he fed a multitude. The church finds it true even today, as we gather around the Lord's Table to break bread and share one cup.

Failure to share food with one another can lead to alienation and conflict. One of the surest ways to keep people divided, one from another, is to forbid them to eat together. Jesus' miracle on the hillside is about more than loaves and fishes. So much more.

A THOUSAND REASONS FOR LIVING

Dom Helder Camara is Brazil's “archbishop of the poor” — or so he has been called, for his abundant compassion toward the slum – shantytown-dwellers of his vast and weary country. Here is a poem Archbishop Camara wrote, about learning how to share bread with others:

If you share your bread
in fear,
mistrustfully,
undaringly,
in a trice your bread
will fail.
Try sharing it
without looking ahead,
not thinking of the cost,
unstintingly,
like a son of the Lord
of all the harvests in the world.

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