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A Good News Story

Jesus Feeds Shares Small Meal with Many

Catholic News Service

When Jesus learned about the death of his friend and cousin John the Baptist, he borrowed a boat and sailed to a place where he could be alone. But, as always, crowds of people followed him. They watched him from the shore and walked to the place where they thought he would be landing.

When Jesus went ashore, he saw many people waiting for him. He put aside his own grief and healed the sick who had come to him to be cured. He knew there were many people who needed his help.

As the day started to turn into night, the disciples came to Jesus and said, "This is a deserted place and it is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves."



Q&A

Why was Jesus sad?

What did Jesus do with the bread and fish?

Read more in Matthew 14

But Jesus shook his head. "There is no need for them to go away," he said. "Give them some food yourselves."

The disciples looked at the food they had brought for themselves. They did not want to disagree with Jesus, but they had to tell them what they found.

One of them, speaking for them

all, said, "Five loaves and two fish are all we have here."

Jesus ignored the frustration he knew his friends were feeling. "Bring them here to me," he said.

The disciples gathered their fish and bread together and brought them to Jesus. When Jesus had the food in front of him, he told everyone to sit down on the grass.

He stood up, holding the baskets that contained the fish and the bread. He looked toward heaven and asked that his Father bless the food that he had provided for their meal.

After he prayed, Jesus began to break the fish and bread into small pieces. He gave these to his disciples, and they distributed the food to all of the people.

At times the disciples had to step around or between the people in order to bring food to them. They did not question what Jesus told them to do.

As a result, everyone who was there, the 5,000 men plus many women and children, had enough to eat. After the food that was left over had been collected, there was still enough to fill 12 baskets.

Bible Trivia

Who were the parents of John the Baptist? (Luke 1)

Puzzle

Build a tower to heaven by correctly answering the questions below. Some Bible references have been provided as hints.

1. Abram's (Abraham's) homeland. *Genesis 11:27*
2. The book that comes before Psalms.
3. The second Gospel.
4. Jesus died on this. *Matthew 27*
5. Heavenly messengers.
6. Keep this day holy. *Exodus 2*

1. _ _

2. _ _ _

3. _ _ _ _

4. _ _ _ _ _

5. _ _ _ _ _ _

6. _ _ _ _ _ _ _

See answers on page 14



Photos provided

It's Vacation Bible School Time

Vacation Bible schools are taking place all over the diocese this summer. Nineteen children from St. Mary/St. Patrick Parish of Durand and Irish Grove took part in a variety of activities during their June 23-27 session. The activities helped them learn what it means to be active members of "God's Team." Each day the players joined their team at "Savior Stadium" for Scripture reading, songs, cheers, crafts (above), snacks, games (right), and much more.

