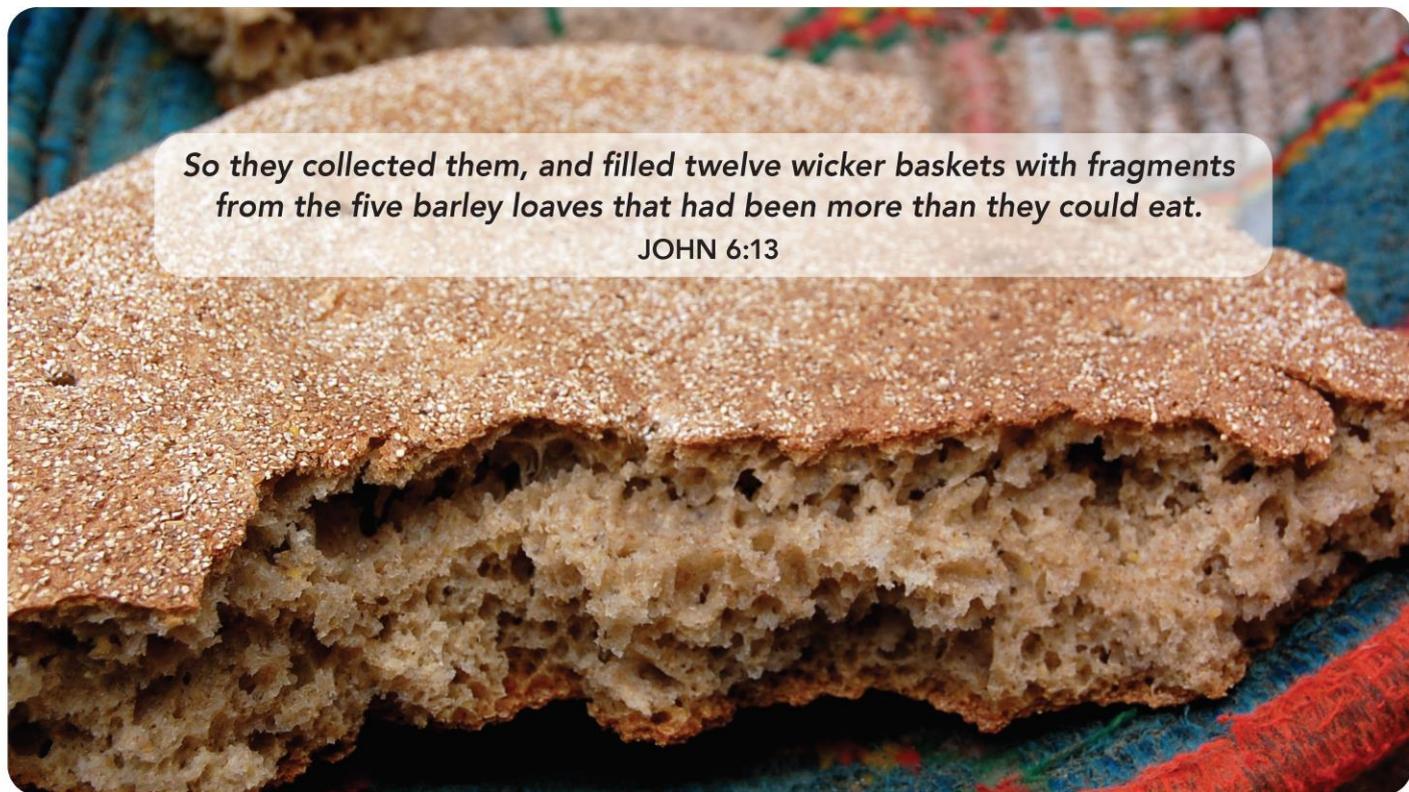




So they collected them, and filled twelve wicker baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves that had been more than they could eat.

JOHN 6:13



More than Enough

Two stories today tell of people hungry for bread who amazingly receive more than enough. In both the first reading and the Gospel passage, a few loaves feed a multitude of people, and there are baskets of leftovers. How did this happen? Did the loaves multiply before their eyes? Did more food drop from heaven? Who of us would not have been thrilled to witness a miraculous feeding like that?

These stories are rich in religious meaning. First, they are meant to show that God meets the needs of

FOR *Reflection*

- * *Through which people in your life has God cared for you and met your needs?*
- * *How does God work through you to meet the needs of others in your life?*

vulnerable people—and meets those needs in ways only God can. Second, the surplus bread reveals the overabundance of divine graciousness. God gives us much more than we need. In other words, God’s generosity is boundless. Third, these marvels don’t just happen out of the blue. They occur through the agency of very ordinary people. In the first reading it is Elisha’s unnamed servant who distributes the loaves. The miracle seems to happen in his very hands. In the Gospel passage it is the disciples of Jesus—ordinary, questioning people like you and me who gather up twelve baskets of leftovers.

Did this event really happen? Of course, it did. In fact, these kinds of occurrences continue today. God is continually meeting our needs. God’s generosity is always boundless. And God still accomplishes marvelous things in our lives through very ordinary people. The problem is that we often fail to realize this. We sometimes wish to see loaves of bread miraculously appear.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA



St. Martin of Tours Catholic Community Fort Belvoir, VA

New to St Martin of Tours?

Please contact our Catholic Coordinator at FBCCInfo@gmail.com to register and get our email mailing list for the latest Catholic Community announcements!

Mass Schedule

Monday – Thursday, 1205 at Fairfax Chapel

Saturday, 1700 at Belvoir Chapel

Sunday, 0930 at Belvoir Chapel
1100 at Fairfax Chapel

The Sunday 0930 Mass is live-streamed and can be viewed from this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/FortBelvoirRSO/>

Sacrament of Reconciliation

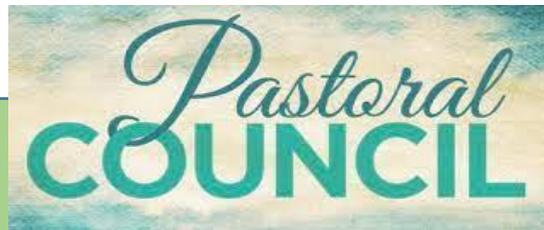
Saturday – 1600-1645 at Belvoir Chapel or by appointment. Contact Fr. Lindsay directly to schedule.

For More Information

CH(MAJ) Michael P. Lindsay, Catholic Chaplain
571-266.2086; michael.p.lindsay.mil@mail.mil
Office located at: Religious Support Annex, Bldg 221, 10011 Middleton Rd, Ft Belvoir, near post office.

Sister Michael Bochnowski, Dir of Religious Education,
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Office located at: Religious Education Center, next to Belvoir Chapel, 5950 12th Street, Fort Belvoir

Mrs. Louise Oliver, Catholic Pastoral Life Coordinator
703-806-5911; FBCCInfo@gmail.com;
louise.m.oliver.mil@mail.mil
Office located at: Religious Support Annex, Bldg 221, 10011 Middleton Rd, Ft Belvoir, near post office.



All members of our Community are invited to attend our next Catholic Pastoral Council Meeting Tuesday, 27 July, at 7pm, in-person at the REC Contact FBCCInfo@gmail.com for more info.



Rocky Railway
Vacation Bible School
1-5 August 2021

6:30pm – 8:30pm
Religious Education Center
Kindergarteners through rising 6th Graders are welcome to attend this annual event

VBS Needs Volunteers

There are many ways YOU can help including tour guides, office help, decorating and kitchen.

For more info or to register, please contact:
Sister Michael Bochnowski, Dir of Religious Ed, at Smary.m.Bochnowski.civ@mail.mil, 703-806-3418.

Catholic MEN'S RETREAT



The St. Martin of Tours Catholic Community, in conjunction with the Fort Belvoir Knights of Columbus, will host a one-day retreat for ALL men of the Community at the St. John Paul II Shrine in Washington, DC on August 14, 2021.

The Retreat topic is:

"Building a Firm Family Foundation."

It will be combined with a tour of the Shrine including St. John Paul II Museum. Mass honoring Blessed Michael McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus will be held at noon, and the day will include time for private prayer, confession, and individual discussions with the retreat master.

Breakfast, lunch, and two coffee breaks are included in the \$25 meal ticket.

Registration is required.

Information flyers and registration forms can be found at the entrance to each Chapel.



HOMILY NOTES

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs." (Psalm 145)

Jesus is not simply a 'prophet of words,' he reveals himself to be the very manifestation of God's compassionate, merciful and generous love. "When the people saw the sign he had done, they said, 'This is truly the Prophet, the one who is to come into the world.'" (John 6:14)

We are offered this generous gift love as we are invited to participate in the Holy Eucharist. Jesus desires to nourish us physically and spiritually through this healing sacrament. "'The Eucharist is 'the source and summit of the Christian life.' 'The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch.'" (Catholic Catechism, pp. 1324) It is not a gift for our nourishment, but a gift to be shared with others. The disciples were give 12 baskets to generously share with others. At the end of Mass we are also sent out to bring The Eucharist to other in the World.

"The Gospel today again shows Jesus to be the Lord, the good shepherd, who makes His people lie down on green grass and spreads a table before them (see [Psalm 23:1, 5](#)). The miraculous feeding is a sign that God has begun to fulfill His promise, which we sing of in today's Psalm—to give His people food in due season and satisfy their desire (see [Psalm 81:17](#)). But Jesus points to the final fulfillment of that promise in the Eucharist. He does the same things He does at the Last Supper—He takes the loaves, pronounces a blessing of thanksgiving (literally, "Eucharist"), and gives the bread to the people (see [Matthew 26:26](#)). Notice, too, that twelve baskets of bread are left over, one for each of the Apostles.

These are signs that should point us to the Eucharist—in which the Church founded on the Apostles continues to feed us with the living bread of His Body.

In this Eucharist, we are made one Body with the Lord, as we hear in today's Epistle. Let us resolve again, then, to live lives worthy of such a great calling." (Scott Hann, [Weekly Reflections](#), St. Paul Center Website)

Fr. Mike

From the Archdiocese for the Military Services...

Healing Retreat for Veterans

The King's Men is sponsoring a David Healing Retreat for Veterans
November 18–21, 2021
at Discovery House in Hammonton, NJ.

The cost is \$450, though scholarships are available for veterans in need. For more information, contact Mark Houck at (267) 980–5507.



Dear Padre,

Previously, this column said Mass should be offered in several languages so everyone can participate. There's an alternative: the Latin Mass. In the past, all nationalities could attend and unite themselves to the sacrifice on Calvary without the barrier of the vernacular. There's one God and one Church. There should be one Mass.

Fundamentally, the Mass is meant to be **inclusive**, by its very nature! The primary purpose for eucharistic celebrations in both the ordinary form (vernacular) and extraordinary form (Latin) is to give glory to God in communion as God's people. This bears mentioning, since the Church's allowance of both forms of one Mass isn't meant to be divisive—although in practice, it can be.

Jesus and his followers likely spoke Aramaic, so the earliest communal gatherings to break bread were celebrated in their native tongue. Likewise, the Mass in its early development was offered in the vernacular—Greek. When Latin became the pervasive language of the people, the Mass switched to Latin. Thus, Mass in the vernacular is not a “barrier.” On the contrary, in allowing the Mass to be celebrated again in the language of the people, Pope Paul VI intended it “as a help in witnessing to and strengthening the unity of all” (Promulgation of the *Missale Romanum*, 1970).

Our unity as believers in one God, one Church, and one Mass is predicated on far more than a uniform language.

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



ONS PHOTO/KAREN CALLAWAY, CHICAGO CATHOLIC

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

[The Church] is not a fortress but a tent able to enlarge her space and give access to all. Either the Church “goes forth” or she is not a Church; either she is on a journey always widening her space so that everyone can enter, or she is not a Church.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, OCTOBER 23, 2019



Calendar

Monday
JULY 26

Sts. Joachim and Anne,
Parents of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
Ex 32:15–24, 30–34
Mt 13:31–35

Tuesday
JULY 27

Weekday
Ex 33:7–11;
34:5b–9, 28
Mt 13:36–43

Wednesday
JULY 28

Weekday
Ex 34:29–35
Mt 13:44–46

Thursday
JULY 29

St. Martha
Ex 40:16–21, 34–38
Jn 11:19–27 or
Lk 10:38–42

Friday
JULY 30

Weekday
Lv 23:1, 4–11, 15–16, 27,
34b–37
Mt 13:54–58

Saturday
JULY 31

St. Ignatius of Loyola,
Priest
Lv 25:1, 8–17
Mt 14:1–12

Sunday
AUGUST 1

Eighteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Ex 16:2–4, 12–15
Eph 4:17, 20–24
Jn 6:24–35