



August 12, 2012 Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Dear Friends,

Have you ever been hungry ... really hungry? Have you ever felt discouraged or overwhelmed? If your answer is “Yes”, then you and Elijah, in the first reading, have a lot in common. In today’s scripture, 1Kings 19: 4-8, the Angel tells the discouraged Elijah to “Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you!” Elijah does eat and drink; strengthened by that food, he walked forty days and nights to the mountain of God, Horeb.

The Responsorial Psalm today is: “Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.”

In the Gospel Jesus says: “I am the living Bread that came down from heaven, whoever eats this bread will live forever.”

Today’s Scriptures offer “EATING” as a source of strength and nourishment for life’s journeys. I believe when Jesus says “I am the Living Bread...” he means the Eucharist and his life. I also believe He comes as the “living bread” through the face and life of each person we meet. We have been created in God’s image and likeness. Jesus walks this earth in you and in me. We, too, are “bread for the world.”

This calls us to the responsibility of becoming aware of “real hungers” in our family, our community, our Church, and in our world. Do we listen to each other and then ask the Lord for guidance together?

Prayer is possible for each of us ... no training is needed. Uniting at the Eucharist is so powerful; how can we refuse His invitation to eat with Him? and with each other?

I ask you to be the “bread of life” for me and all Catholic Sisters in the USA this week. The American Sisters have been censored by the Vatican and judged as being unfaithful to Church teachings. This week the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, representing 80% of USA Sisters, is meeting to determine our response to the Vatican. Your prayerful support is deeply appreciated.

NOURISH AND FEED: Your children need to be fed and nourished in their faith. St. Anne parish wants to help you. Feeding the hungry child with FAITH FORMATION begins August 19th-20th. Please don’t starve your child from knowing God. Register before August 17th.

Elijah, in our first reading today definitely had moments of discouragement, as do we. Follow his example and take time to eat of the BODY and drink of the BLOOD that nourishes! See you next weekend.

Blessings in Jesus and Mary,

Sister Barbara, sjm