

LIVING FAITH

NINEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY

JOHN 6:41-51

Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' They were saying, 'Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus answered them, 'Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, "And they shall all be taught by God." Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'



TAKING THE GOSPEL HOME

Jesus says, 'I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.' Jesus promises that He is always with us. He is with us in our hearts and in our families. He is with us in our communities. He is with us in and through the people who love us, support us, and encourage us. He is with us in and through the Church. He is with us in the Eucharist and the other Sacraments. Jesus is with us. Jesus wants to be with us. And He invites us to share His Presence and His Love with others.

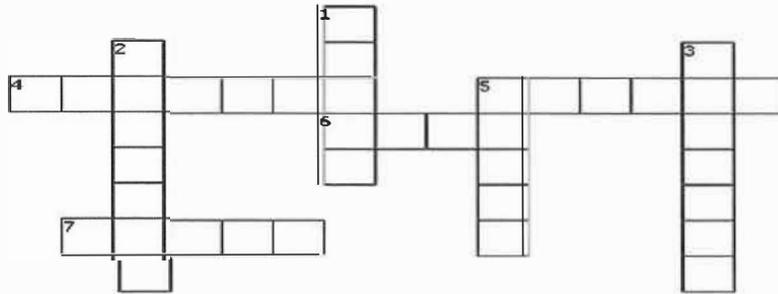
PONDER AND DISCUSS...

- How have you experienced the presence and the love of Jesus?
- How have others experienced the presence and the love of Jesus through you?

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Jesus the Bread of Life

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." John 6:51 (NIV)



ACROSS

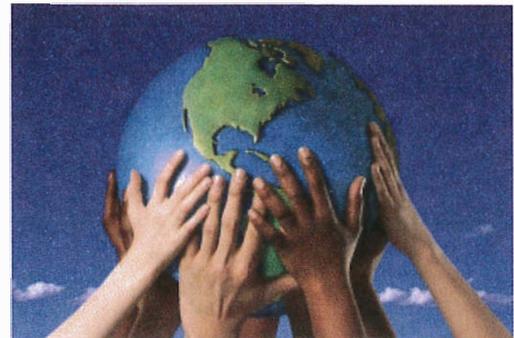
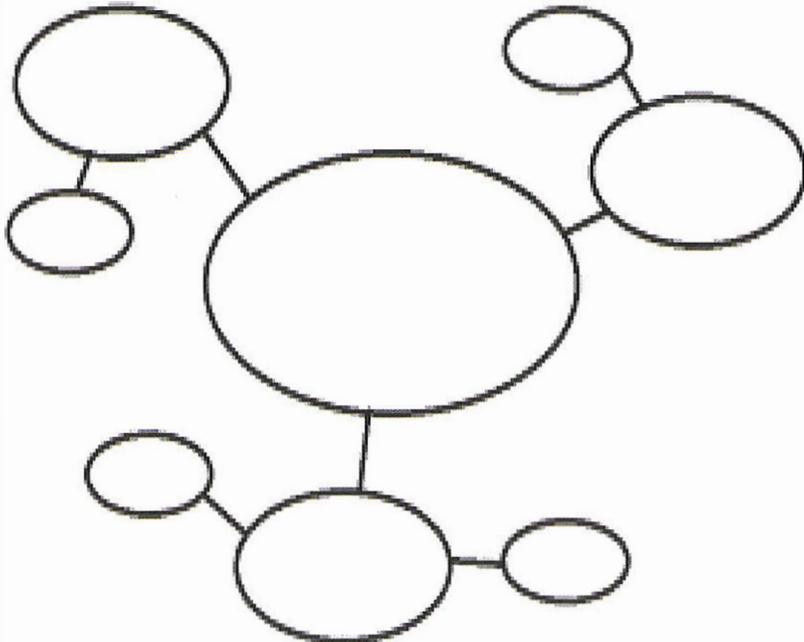
4. For everlasting time; eternally
5. To make an effort to hear something; to pay attention
6. To continue to be alive
7. The Son of God

DOWN

1. The earth with its inhabitants
2. A person who speaks for God; Isaiah, for example
3. To accept as true or real
5. To gain knowledge through experience or study

Jesus prophet	listen learn	believe live	forever world
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Name some ways we can bring Jesus to our brothers and sisters and to our world during this week.



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<http://www.eepurl.com/cimDOL>



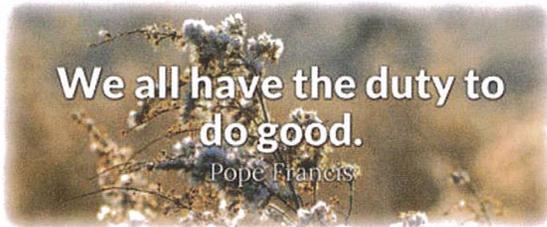
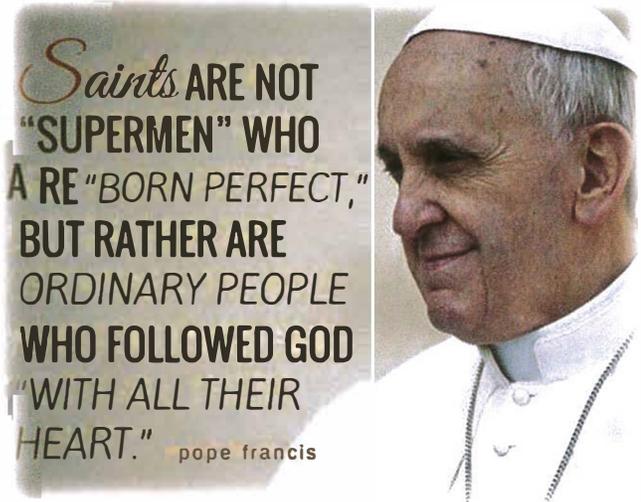
THE CHURCH TEACHES

A LETTER FROM POPE FRANCIS

GAUDETE ET EXULTATE—REJOICE AND BE GLAD

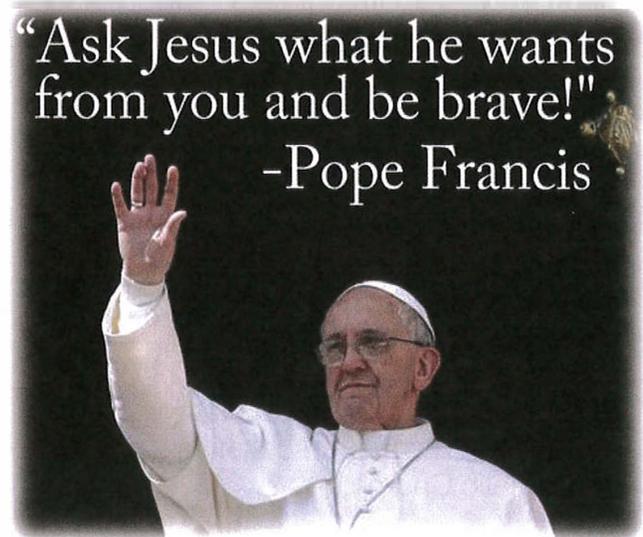
CHAPTER TWO

In Chapter Two, Pope Francis talks about how certain tendencies draw people away from holiness. There is a problem when "... instead of evangelizing, one analyses and classifies others, and instead of opening the door to grace, one exhausts his or her energies in inspecting and verifying. In neither case is one really concerned about Jesus Christ or others". §35



"Thanks be to God, throughout the history of the Church it has always been clear that a person's perfection is measured not by the information or knowledge they possess, but by the depth of their charity." §37

When somebody has an answer for every question, it is a sign that they are not on the right road. They may well be false prophets, who use religion for their own purposes, to promote their own psychological or intellectual theories. God infinitely transcends us; he is full of surprises. We are not the ones to determine when and how we will encounter him; the exact times and places of that encounter are not up to us. Someone who wants everything to be clear and sure presumes to control God's transcendence. §41



For a copy of Gaudete et Exultate click here :

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20180319_gaudete-et-exultate.html

FEASTS THIS WEEK

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

AUGUST 15



We find homilies on the Assumption going back to the sixth century. The feast was celebrated under various names-Commemoration, Dormition, Passing, Assumption-from at least the fifth or sixth century. By the 13th century there was universal agreement.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary's Assumption into heaven. Revelation 12 speaks of a woman who is caught up in the battle between good and evil. Many see this woman as Mary, who best embodies the people of both Old and New Testaments, her Assumption can be seen as an exemplification of the woman's victory.

Since Mary is closely associated with all the mysteries of Jesus' life, it is not surprising that the Holy Spirit has led the Church to believe in Mary's share in his glorification. So close was she to Jesus on earth, she must be with him body and soul in heaven.

On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII defined the Assumption of Mary to be a dogma of faith: "We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory." The pope proclaimed this dogma only after a broad consultation of bishops, theologians and laity. What the pope solemnly declared was already a common belief in the Catholic Church.



Hail | Holy Queen

Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,
our life, our sweetness and our hope.
To you do we cry,
poor banished children of Eve.
To you do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.
Turn then, O most gracious advocate,
your eyes of mercy toward us;
and after this our exile,
show unto us the blessed fruit
of your womb, Jesus.
O clement! O loving! O sweet Virgin Mary!

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.
That we may be made worthy
of the promises of Christ.

For a short video reflection on Roman Catholic beliefs about Mary, view here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3&v=j7AQGyqtoK0