

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

26th July, 2009

First Reading

2 Kings 4:42-44

A reading from the second book of Kings

They will eat, and have some left over.

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the Lord, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the Lord.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps. 144 (145)

Response: *The hand of the Lord feeds us;
he answers all our needs.*

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God. **R.**

The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. **R.**

You are just in all your ways
and loving in all your deeds.
You are close to all who call you,
who call on you from their hearts. **R.**

Second Reading

Eph. 4:1-6

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

There is one body, one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

I, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to

maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us!

God has visited his people!

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn. 6:1-15

✠ A reading from the holy gospel according to John

R. **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

He distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted.

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

When Jesus realised that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

For the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Christ.