



INSTITUTE OF CHRIST THE KING SOVEREIGN PRIEST

In the Diocese of Plymouth

Laetare Sunday

27th of March 2022

“Whence shall we buy bread that these may eat? And this he said to try him, for he himself knew what he would do.”



This Sunday in Lent is set a part to rejoice! Half-way through this season of penance the Church has us pause to consider the joy we should have even in the midst of our pilgrimage to the Heavenly City Jerusalem, we who as the Collect reminds us are justly afflicted because of our demerits, but who rightly hope in the comfort of grace.

The Introit speaks of joy and of being satiated as from a mother eager to nurse. This is very human as we are naturally preoccupied with eating.

The downfall of the human race began with food: the eating of the forbidden fruit of the tree of knowledge of good

and evil. Since then food or rather the lack of it has been a symbol of our misery and curse, famines and want, poverty of means, it is a substance so necessary to our fragile lives. Food when plenty has been a sign of salvation, of wisdom and of blessing.

And so we have the scene in today's Gospel, the spectacle of Jesus feeding 5000 men to satiety with 5 barley loaves and two fishes. “Whence shall we buy bread that these may eat? And this he said to try [Philip], for he himself knew what he would do.” Men are hungry. These were hungry, not because their stomachs were empty but because they wanted a savior. They saw Him heal many miraculously. They caught a glimpse of His Divine Love but could not understand it fully. So later having been feed miraculously they soon turn away when He tries to feed their souls. They were too materialistic, they wanted a political savior, a king who would solve their external problems but not a savior who would save them from their sins and give them spiritual food, food for the soul.

For you see the soul is hungry, it has been hungry for God since the beginning. Eve ate in disobedience so

as to become like God. Christ came to die on the Cross in obedience to the Will of the Father so as to become for us the fruit of the tree of life. He gives us this bread of life, His own flesh, His whole person, as the fruit of obedience through which the effects of the fruit of disobedience may be overcome. The soul is hungry for God and it is often in error as to how to fill that void and so falls time and again into sin. Our hunger for God cannot be met by some created thing but only by Himself. Christ has become our spiritual food, He has become for us the Eucharist, the Thanksgiving to God that fills our soul.

But this spiritual food is not consumed like natural food. It is not devoured and transformed into our substance for it is greater than us. In fact the process is in some ways in reverse we are transformed by it. We are changed into something else by it we become more like it. So how do we eat spiritual food? Is it simply a matter of receiving Holy Communion? St. Thomas Aquinas speaks of two aspects of the sacrament, the sign and the reality. In the Eucharist there is the sign of spiritual nourishment, the species of bread and that of wine which remain to the senses after the consecration. Then there is the reality, in this case the very Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ who gloriously reigns now in heaven. There are some who by a spiritual communion receive in their soul the reality of this sacrament but not the sign. There are others who

having approached the altar rail receive both the sign and the reality and there are those who because of the state of their soul receive only the sign because their tongues can accept the Sacred Host having the appearance of bread but their souls are not capable of receiving to itself the Real Presence of Christ.

Spiritual food is not eaten with the mouth but by an obedient will. This is the lesson Christ gives to His disciples when they see Him speaking to the woman at the well. His spiritual food is to do the will of His Father. By being obedient to God we eat the spiritual food that is given to strengthen our souls, the food we pray for when we recite the Our Father asking for our Daily Bread.



He who fed the multitudes with a few loaves desires to perform a greater miracle in our lives by feeding us until

we are satiated with Divine Grace and there remains a surplus to be collected. This is why He humbles Himself to come to us in Holy Communion, not once, or even twice in a lifetime or in a year but whenever we attend the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass that we may receive not only Divine Grace but its very author.

The hunger is great and He yearns to feed us. Let us accept that we cannot be fed by doing our will but by accomplishing the will of the God in our own lives. Thus we will make the words that the Church places on the lips of the priest in today's post communion a sincere request by one and all: "Grant, we beseech thee, O merciful God, that we may sincerely respect, and receive with faith thy holy mysteries, with which thou daily feedest us." Being satiated by the food which comes down from heaven, we may now rejoice exceedingly, we who have been in the sorrowful hunger of sin may now leap for joy.



Lanherne Volunteer Days Week of March 28th

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped with the last Volunteer day in February! Much was accomplished for the Sisters in their upper garden as well as for the front of the Convent.

There remains much to be done in the cemetery and around the grounds. Next week, Jack and Steph from Shrewsbury will be down for tree works. If you are able to help with Jack and Steph or in the Cemetery or elsewhere in the week, please let me know.



Food Needed

By many individual acts of kindness and generosity we are together able to supply those in need. Please place the items in the baskets provided in the Convent Entrance.

Urgently Needed Food Items:

- Tinned Fruit (400gms)
- Tinned Stewed Beef (400gms) Tinned Curry (400gms)
- Tinned Pies (Freys Bentos)
- Pulses (Kidney Beans, Chick Peas) (400gms)
- Tinned Fish (Makrel, Tuna)
- Tinned Veg (Sweetcorn, Peas, Carrots)

The Sisters of Lanherne are grateful to the Providence of God who supplies their needs through the generous support of the faithful.

Lanherne Nuns

Sort code: 30-98-76

Account: 45742568

Holy Angels:

Torquay

Account Name: ICKSP

Account Details: 40-03-33

Account Number: 12333902

Date	Canon Smith	Canon Tanner
	Mass Offered For:	
27	Novena For Mothers Benefactors	Novena for Mothers S. O.
28	Novena For Mothers	Anne Lerch
29	Bryan Hunt RIP	Novena For Mothers
30	Bryan Hunt RIP	Novena For Mothers
31	Novena For Mothers Bryan Hunt RIP	Tomasz RIP
1	Novena For Mothers	Patrick Johnston
2	Holy Souls	Novena For Mothers

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At Lanherne Convent

Sundays:
8.30am Low Mass
10am Sung Mass

Monday through Saturday:
8am Mass

Thursdays:
8am and 6.15pm Mass

Confession: Saturdays at 3pm

At Holy Angels

Sundays:
9.45 -10.15am Confessions
10.30am Mass

Monday 28th March:
5pm Adoration (with Confession available)
6pm Mass

Tuesday 29th March:
8.30am Mass

Wednesday 30th March –
Saturday 2nd April: No services

Plymouth: Sundays at 3pm