

Pastor's Column

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Words of Hope

The Scriptures this weekend give us a very clear message that our God is a God who provides for us, who gives us the nourishment we need for the journey.

You have heard these words proclaimed this weekend at Mass. Take time to reflect on them during the coming week, and let them be the wellspring of hope for you as you face whatever difficulties come your way:

...All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat; come without paying and without cost, drink wine and milk!

Come to me heedfully; listen, that you may have life.

—Isaiah

...in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

—St. Paul to the Romans

...When Jesus disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick...

...Taking the five loaves and two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over—twelve wicker baskets full.

—Matthew

Trust in God's Word and allow that Word to nurture you! Let your prayer be the words of Ss. Cosmas and Damian:

Almighty God, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, come to my help and deliver me from this difficulty that besets me. I believe, Lord, that all trials of life are under your care and that all things work for the good of those who love You. Take away from me fear, anxiety, and distress. Help me to face and endure my difficulty with faith, courage, and wisdom. Grant that this trial may bring me closer to You, for You are my rock and refuge, my comfort and hope, my delight and joy. I trust in Your love and compassion. Blessed is Your name, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

F. Mike