

ST. MARY'S CHURCH & ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH
Prayer Gathering for August 1

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

OPENING PRAYER

**God of all our journeys,
after you freed us from slavery, and brought us through a sea your power split in two,
the rumble in our stomachs and soreness in our feet made us forget what you had done.
Help us to trust you to feed us, to guide us and to lead us
and hunger more for you than for anything else.
We ask this in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ, our Lord. AMEN.**

READING

MOMENT FOR SILENCE

GOSPEL PASSAGE

SHARING QUESTIONS

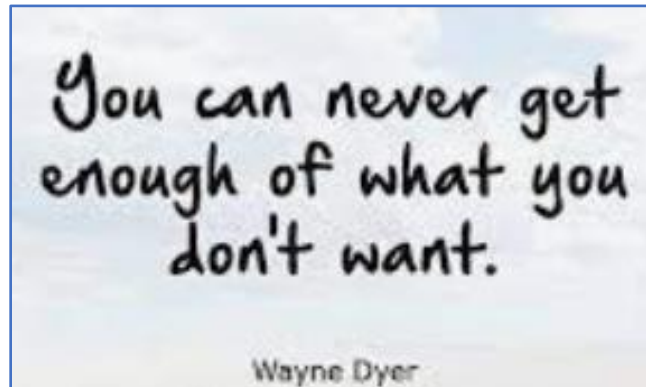
The Israelites said to them: "...You had to lead us into this desert to make the whole community die of famine!"

The hunger and fatigue the Israelites felt caused them to forget that they had been freed from slavery, and they tantrumed. What situation in your life or your family's life does this make you think of?

On seeing (the manna), the Israelites asked one another, "What is this?" for they did not know what it was.

Has something ever showed up in your life that you at first failed to recognize as a gift? How long did it take you to figure it out?

POSTED RECENTLY



DISCUSSION

"Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life."
What did you spend time pursuing earlier in your life that now no longer really appeals to you? How have your tastes for what you really want developed and matured from what they once were?

What is your soul most hungry for these days?

BREAD OF LIFE LITANY

Lord, we pray the Catholic Church may be a home for one and all...

Please, God, feed our truest hungers and quench our deepest thirst.

Lord, we pray that our divisions may be bridged by your Son's peace...

Please, God, feed our truest hungers and quench our deepest thirst.

Lord, we pray to use the daily bread you give us to become our highest selves...

Please, God, feed our truest hungers and quench our deepest thirst.

Lord, we pray that callousness and anger may be replaced by reverent love...

Please, God, feed our truest hungers and quench our deepest thirst.

Lord, we pray that COVID's grip upon us may be loosed and let go...

Please, God, feed our truest hungers and quench our deepest thirst.

Lord, we pray the lure of addictive living will be replaced by your own will...

Please, God, feed our truest hungers and quench our deepest thirst.

Lord, we pray that all who live with lack and want will know abundance and rejoice...

Please, God, feed our truest hungers and quench our deepest thirst.

Lord, we pray that the approach of death will bring out not fear, but faith...

Please, God, feed our truest hungers and quench our deepest thirst.

Lord, we pray to long for our true homeland and all those who have gone before...

Please, God, feed our truest hungers and quench our deepest thirst.

OUR FATHER

[OPTIONAL] PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (St. Alphonsus Ligouri)

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already here, and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. AMEN.

CLOSING PRAYER

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.

SIGN OF THE CROSS +

READING 1

A reading from the book of Exodus

The whole Israelite community grumbled against Moses and Aaron.
The Israelites said to them,

*"Would that we had died at the LORD's hand in the land of Egypt,
as we sat by our fleshpots and ate our fill of bread!
But you had to lead us into this desert
to make the whole community die of famine!"*

Then the LORD said to Moses,

*"I will now rain down bread from heaven for you.
Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion;
thus will I test them,
to see whether they follow my instructions or not.*

*I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites.
Tell them: In the evening twilight you shall eat flesh,
and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread,
so that you may know that I, the LORD, am your God."*

In the evening quail came up and covered the camp.
In the morning a dew lay all about the camp,
and when the dew evaporated, there on the surface of the desert
were fine flakes like hoarfrost on the ground.

On seeing it, the Israelites asked one another, *"What is this?"*
for they did not know what it was.

But Moses told them,

"This is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

READING 2

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

When (the crowd) found (Jesus) across the sea they said to him,
“Rabbi, when did you get here?”

Jesus answered them and said,
*“Amen, amen, I say to you,
you are looking for me not because you saw signs
but because you ate the loaves and were filled.*

So they said to him: *“What can we do to accomplish the works of God?”*

Jesus answered and said to them,
“This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent.”

So they said to him,
*“What sign can you do, that we may see and believe in you?
What can you do?
Our ancestors ate manna in the desert, as it is written:
‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”*

So Jesus said to them,
*“Amen, amen, I say to you,
it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven;
my Father gives you the true bread from heaven.
For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven
and gives life to the world.”*

So they said to him: *“Sir, give us this bread always.”*

Jesus said to them,
*“I am the bread of life;
whoever comes to me will never hunger,
and whoever believes in me will never thirst.”*

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, Lord, Jesus Christ

John, chapter 6