

## Readings — July 26, 2015

**FIRST READING:** Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

<sup>2</sup> The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup> The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

<sup>4</sup> Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.”

<sup>9</sup> Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’ ” <sup>10</sup> And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. <sup>11</sup> The Lord spoke to Moses and said, <sup>12</sup> “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’ ”

<sup>13</sup> In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. <sup>14</sup> When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. <sup>15</sup> When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.”

**PSALM 145:8-19** (please read responsively)

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup>**The LORD is good to all,  
and his compassion is over all that he has made**☩

<sup>10</sup>All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,  
and all your faithful shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup>**They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom,  
and tell of your power,**

<sup>12</sup>to make known to all people your mighty deeds,  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup>**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,  
and your dominion endures throughout all generations**☩

**The LORD is faithful in all his words,  
and gracious in all his deeds**☩

<sup>14</sup>The LORD upholds all who are falling,  
and raises up all who are bowed down.

<sup>15</sup>**The eyes of all look to you,  
and you give them their food in due season**☩

<sup>16</sup>You open your hand,  
satisfying the desire of every living thing.

<sup>17</sup>**The LORD is just in all his ways,  
and kind in all his doings**☩

<sup>18</sup>The LORD is near to all who call on him,  
to all who call on him in truth.

<sup>19</sup>**He fulfills the desire of all who fear him;  
he also hears their cry, and saves them**☩

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**\*GOSPEL:** John 6:1-5, 7-15, 26-35

*(please stand as you are able)*

<sup>1</sup>After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias.<sup>2</sup>A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick.<sup>3</sup>Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples.<sup>4</sup>Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near.<sup>5</sup>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?"

<sup>7</sup>Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little."<sup>8</sup>One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him,<sup>9</sup>There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?<sup>10</sup>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.<sup>11</sup>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.<sup>12</sup>When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost."<sup>13</sup>So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets.<sup>14</sup>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."

<sup>15</sup>When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

<sup>26</sup>Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves."<sup>27</sup>Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal."<sup>28</sup>Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?"<sup>29</sup>Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."<sup>30</sup>So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?"<sup>31</sup>Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'<sup>32</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven."<sup>33</sup>For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."<sup>34</sup>They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

<sup>35</sup>Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."