



Jesus is the Word of God

Read Scripture Together: Mark 6: 30-44

Jesus and his apostles had been traveling, teaching, and helping many people. They were tired and needed to rest, but when a crowd of people came for help, Jesus taught them and fed them. Why do you think Jesus did that?

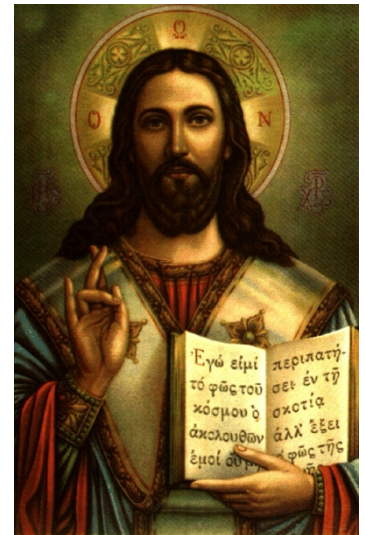
Jesus knew what the people needed, and he gave it to them because he loved them. Jesus knows what each one of us needs and he cares about each one of us just as much as he cared about the people in the Scripture passage we just read. Jesus loves you; he loves me, he loves every single person in the world more than we could ever imagine. He is always here for us, and he is always ready to give us what we need.

Our lives today are very different from the lives of the people in the Bible, but we still need Jesus today just as much as the people did all those years ago. Jesus provides for our needs in many ways - the most special way that Jesus gives us what we need is during the Mass.

The Mass has two main parts – the **Liturgy of the Word** and the **Liturgy of the Eucharist**. (*Liturgy means the words and actions that we use when we worship God and celebrate the sacraments.*)

When the readings from Scripture are proclaimed during the **Liturgy of the Word** and when the priest or the deacon gives the **homily**, God speaks to us. Jesus is present, offering us love and forgiveness, guiding us by his teachings and example.

(The Code of Canon Law describes the homily as “Can. 767 §1. Among the forms of preaching, the homily, which is part of the liturgy itself and is reserved to a priest or deacon, is preeminent; in the homily the mysteries of faith and the norms of Christian life are to be explained from the sacred text during the course of the liturgical year.”)



Just as Jesus taught the people long ago in the Scripture passage we read, he teaches us today when we hear Scripture readings at Mass. Jesus knows that we need his guidance, and he gives that to us in a special way when we hear the readings and the homily during Mass.



Pax Christi
Sacrament Preparation