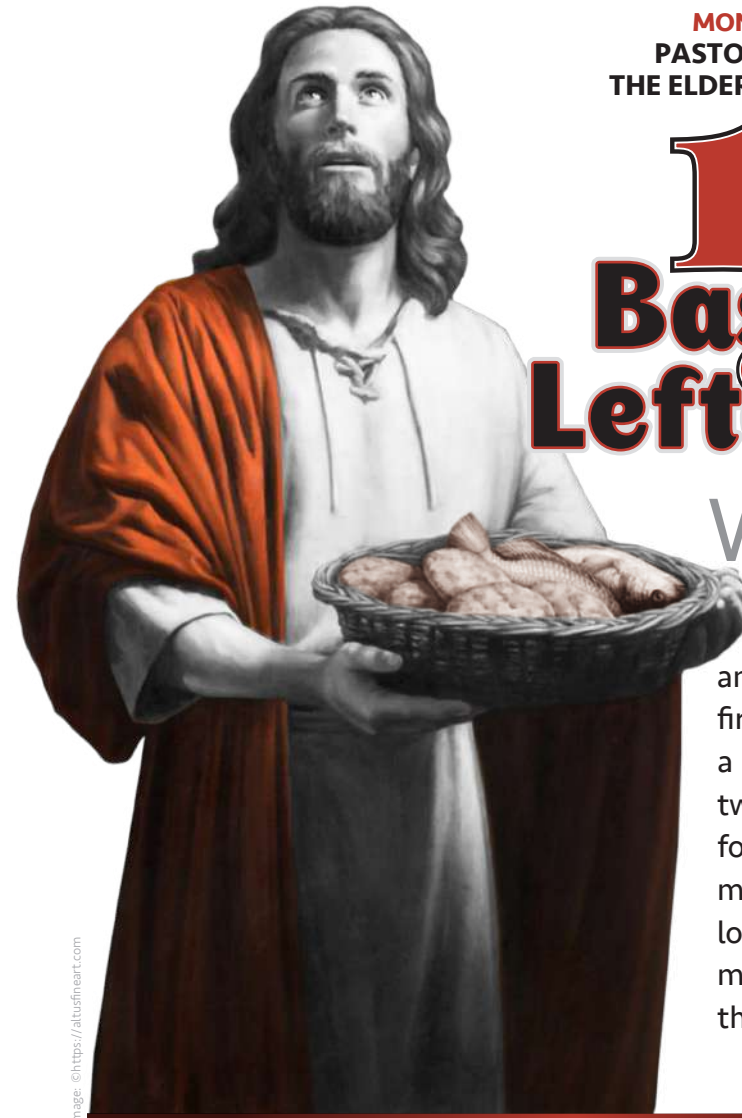


newbee

SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD:
CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF COMMUNION
PARTICIPATION AND MISSION (MATTHEW 5: 13-16).

MONTHLY FOCUS
PASTORAL CARE FOR
THE ELDERLY AND THE SICK

12 Baskets of Leftovers



We are blessed for our God provides for all of our needs. He feeds us physically and spiritually. In the first reading, Elisha feeds a hundred people with twenty barley loaves, foreshadowing the miracle of the five barley loaves and two fish multiplied to feed five thousand people.

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“Grandparents are the uniting link between generations to transmit to the young the experience of life and faith.”

Pope Francis



It was a wonder that Jesus Christ performed when He fed a crowd of five thousand hungry people with only some bread and fish. It is one of the signs of Jesus’ divine power and authority. Just as what Elisha predicted, there was some left over. In Jesus’ time, it was 12 big baskets of leftovers. Baffling, but it is what our Lord does. **Our God is a God of abundance.** He nourishes us so generously and often times beyond our expectations.

The miracle means so much more than just the multiplication of the food. What would have been His disciples’ role in this? They distributed the food. Jesus wants us to get involved in His work. Our participation and cooperation in Church and in the community is very important to fulfil Jesus’ mission on earth. Besides that, we can feel the compassion Jesus had for the multitudes. Their hunger was not only physical, but spiritual as well. They were following Someone who would sit down and teach them. Their needs before His own and that of His disciples. The twelve baskets of leftovers reflect the fulfilment and contentment that were not there in their lives before, but now as only can be found in a relationship with Jesus.

Jesus gave thanks and blessed the food before it was given out. We can see a parallel here. The miracle foreshadows the miracle of the Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Christ, multiplied and which continues to feed all His followers, strengthening us and providing for us in our life.

Like the Ephesians in the second reading, we are encouraged to be worthy of our Baptism in the One Lord. We are urged to be charitable, selfless, gentle and patient and be united in God, our Father. We pray for faith and courage.✙

SCRIPTURE
of the DAY

2 Kings 4: 42-44

Psalms 144: 10-11, 15-18

Ephesians 4: 1-6

John 6: 1-15