

August 11-12, 2018

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Kings 19:4-8

Ephesians 4:30-5:2

John 6:41-51

Dependent on where someone lives, many have their favorite Summer foods, snacks or lazy-day tastes. On the East Coast, a casual stroll amid the beach towns will uncover ample Salt-Water Taffy shops while up in New England assorted Maple products will give a sweet taste to bbq meats, ice cream and baked goods. In like manner, the annual Bumbershoot Festival in Seattle will offer every variation imaginable by the human mind on Salmon while in Colorado they sigh with gustatory contentment with all things peaches and cantaloupes. Spanning the globe, each culture and ethnicity has favorite recipes; the thread being it is all FOOD. In a similar way, regardless of where we dwell, each week we gather to be fed with our distinct FOOD OF FAITH within our EUCHARISTIC celebration, the Mass. Offering us the REAL PRESENCE of JESUS in four distinct ways: #1. The assembly when we gather, #2. The Priest when one of us presides, #3. The Sacred WORD when it is proclaimed and lastly, #4. The consecrated bread and consecrated wine, which has become the BODY and BLOOD of Jesus in the same manner as Jesus offered it to his disciples at the Last Supper. Remembering our mother's urging to 'eat good food' in order to grow strong bones, bodies and clarity of thinking, our EUCHARISTIC FOOD empowers us to become more and more like Jesus. Under the oversight of the 'Persona Christi-the PRIEST' we gather 'AS HIS BODY' and consume his WORD and his FLESH and BLOOD, so as conform ourselves inwardly and outwardly into living presences of Jesus. Like all food, even our favorite recipes, our Eucharistic Food is intended to be CONSUMED, DIGESTED and transformed into the building blocks by which our flesh and blood grow, heal and develop...along with the energy by which the electrical impulses controlling our thoughts and actions continue unabated. Unlike the cantaloupes of Colorado or the taffy of New England beach towns, our Eucharistic Food also gives us GRACE by which our compassion may be deepened, our forgiveness be more sincere, our insight more thoughtful and our charity more natural. Once again, during these Eucharistic-focused weeks, how has Eucharist strengthened you? How has the nearness of Jesus (literally becoming a part of you) made a difference within your life, decisions and actions?

Summer days and summer nights, thank you for joining with our Santa Clara community as part of your Summer of 2018! Our parish events take a slower pace during these final Summer weeks but please check the Bulletin for more information on upcoming events. Please note the celebration of 'The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary' this week, with a Vigil Mass on Tuesday the 14th at 5pm and the usual 8:30am Mass on Wednesday the 15th. However you choose to spend your Summer hours, please know that you are loved. FKB