

July 28-29, 2018

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Second Kings 4:42-44

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:1-15

Following the heroic rescue of the Thai Soccer team there have been numerous articles written about who they are, their circumstances while in the cave and their rescue. As the world exhaled shared breaths of relief, we must first honor...and not forget... the retired-Thai Navy Seal, Saman Kunont, who died after bringing oxygen tanks to the trapped team. Scripture reminds us, 'There is no greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends...' Former-Seal Kunont, whose name will probably soon be forgotten by many, gave of his time, his experience and ultimately, his life, so that the boys and coach could survive. 'God bless and welcome you Saman Kunont.' Regarding their entrapment, many of the articles are detailing how the team survived, what they ate, how they took care of bodily functions....how they supported each other...entirely in the absolute darkness of the cave. It would not be a stretch to say that the team HOPED to be rescued and they held to that hope tightly. In our Gospel passage from John, we hear of Jesus feeding the five thousand with just a few loaves and fish. The miracle is impressive even as some wish it could have been better documented. Was it a continual refreshment of the meager supply, new bread appearing as old loaves were given away? Was it a generous sharing of what people had brought so that everyone ultimately had enough...all prompted by the small token offered by the boy? Did the crowd realize what was occurring or did they just accept another meal being offered, not knowing from when it had come? What stands out is that Jesus USED the small sacrifice offered by the boy (who will forever remain THE BOY...as no name is offered) to effect his miracle. The generosity of one, even though seemingly pointless in the face of such a huge crowd, enable Jesus to FEED thousands. In our real world, people are FED with more than just physical food that gets digested in the belly. DREAMS, POSSIBILITIES, FRESH VISION, NEW BEGINNINGS, FORGIVENESS, EDUCATION and countless other non-physical sustenance are what fuels our everyday and long term efforts in life. The Thai soccer team fed each other with HOPE while surviving in the dark. **For what do you hunger? Who feeds you in today's times?** Have we despaired to the point of not believing that Jesus can still feed the world? What are we willing to offer, provide, sacrifice, so as to prime the pump and allow Jesus to do the rest? Saman Kunont did not have a death wish but he was willing to risk and sacrifice his life to feed those surviving in darkness with hope. **For what do you hunger? Who feeds you in today's times? Whom do you feed by what you offer?**

As July begins to give way to August, thank you for sharing this weekend with our Santa Clara Community of faith. Thank you as well to all those who came together last weekend to celebrate LA CENA...our village supper fed hundreds....not just with food but with smiles, stories, laughter and song. Thank you to all our volunteers who contributed to make our supper A FEAST! As mentioned in last week's Bulletin, you will note the professional presence of my friend, Mr. Greg Heckler, who is taking pictures among us for our 2019 Santa Clara Building Campaign (formerly known as the PSA.) Next weekend is our Married Couples Retreat and Fr. Rudy, Fr. Delahunty and Fr. Seamus will be covering the weekend Masses...I trust they will be kind to you....and presume you will be equally kind to them. As we enter the last full month of Summer, please remember that you are loved. FKB