

Gospel – John 6:1-21

1 Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), **2** and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the signs he had performed by healing those who were ill. **3** Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. **4** The Jewish Passover Festival was near. **5** When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming towards him, he said to Philip, 'Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?' **6** He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do. **7** Philip answered him, 'It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!' **8** Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, **9** 'Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?' **10** Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). **11** Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. **12** When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, 'Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted.' **13** So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten. **14** After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, 'Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.' **15** Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself. **16** When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, **17** where they got into a boat and set off across the lake for Capernaum. By now it was dark, and Jesus had not yet joined them. **18** A strong wind was blowing and the waters grew rough. **19** When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus approaching the boat, walking on the water; and they were frightened. **20** But he said to them, 'It is I; don't be afraid.' **21** Then they were willing to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the shore where they were heading.