

August 16, 2009

B

Twenty th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Proverbs 9: 1 – 6

Ephesians 5: 15 -20

John 6: 51 – 58

Today's Gospel of John 6: 51 – 58 expresses the ultimate act of faith in Christ. Without faith we cannot please God. It is expressed as a metaphor for food (v. 54) with "whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day." This is Soul Food! If the soul does not hunger and thirst it is a sign that we are dead.

This spiritual food – the Bread of Life - that Christ provides is given for the life of the whole world, and none are excluded from this flesh and blood – bread and wine – because this is the will of God. Perhaps the most encompassing thing about Christ is that he did not carry on any private design nor had any separate side interests. Christ wants all to be raised on the last day. That is to say, the doctrine of Christ crucified is that he died for the whole world throughout time and space (as Msgr Caverly expresses so often). Catholic Social teaching expresses solidarity for respecting all life and that all will be raised on the last day. Respecting Life and Peace and Justice is a package deal.

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