

*CHRIST'S MIRACLE  
OF FEEDING THE 5,000*



### **CHRIST CONTINUES TO SATISFY OUR "HUNGER"**

**W**herever Christ went during His public ministry, a large crowd was always there to greet Him. Some came out of mere curiosity, while others sought out the Lord with the hope that He would touch their lives in some miraculous way. Still others simply wanted to be in His presence because they truly believed that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah.

All four evangelists record the story of what was one of the largest gathering Christ attracted. Seeking a place to rest one day, our Saviour retreated to a remote region along the Sea of Galilee. When His destination became known, however, He was quickly joined by some 5,000 people from the surrounding villages. Concerned for their hunger, our Lord performed a miracle which defies description: He was able to feed the multitude there with only 5 loaves of bread and two small fish! The Gospels tell us that there were even 12 baskets of fragments left over!

The feeding of the 5,000 is reminiscent of God providing MANNA in the wilderness for the Israelites as they journeyed to the Promise Land. More importantly, the Church Fathers see in this miraculous event an image of the HOLY EUCHARIST. At the Divine Liturgy, everyone who comes forward **"in the fear of God with faith and love"** to receive the Body and Blood of Christ has their spiritual hunger satisfied. Indeed, as the priest prays at every Holy Liturgy: **"The Lamb of God is broken and distributed, broken but not divided, ever-eaten yet never consumed, but sanctifying those who partake of It."**

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## ST. RAPHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

*Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the South*

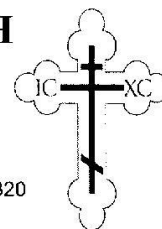
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**SUNDAY, SEPT. 12, 2021 - 12<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 3.**  
**Leavetaking of the Nativity of the Theotokos. Sunday before Elevation.**

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK	<i>Please join us after Divine Liturgy for a Coffee Fellowship in Myrrhbearers Hall Confessions - Ask Fr. Sergious for a time</i>	DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS
Sat: Great Vespers 4:00 PM		Mon: 3[1]Kings 8:22-23; 27-30, Proverbs 3:19-34; 9:1-11, Hebrews 3:1-4, Matthew 16:13-18, 2 Corinthians 8:7-15, Mark 3:6-12
Sun: Reading of The Hours 9:45 AM Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM		Tue: Exodus 15:22-16:1, Proverbs 3:11-18, Isaiah 60:11-16, John 12:28-36; Mark 3:13-19, 1 Corinthians 1:18-24
Tue: Divine Liturgy-Elevation 9:00 AM of the Holy Cross		Wed: 2 Corinthians 9:12-10:7, Mark 3:20-27
Thu.: Akathist to St. Herman 4:00 PM		Thu: 2 Corinthians 10:7-18, Mark 3:28-35
		Fri: 2 Corinthians 11:5-21, Mark 4:1-9
		Sat: 1 Corinthians 1:26-29; 2:6-9, John 8:21-30, Matthew 22:15-22

**+EPISTLE+ (1 Corinthians 15:1-11)** Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you – unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for your sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. Than last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time. For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach so you believed.

**+GOSPEL+ (Matthew – 19:16-26)** Now behold, one came and said to Him, “Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?” So He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.” He said to Him, “Which ones?” Jesus said, “‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” The young man said to Him, “All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?” Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. Then Jesus said to His disciples, “Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God. When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?” But Jesus looked at them and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

***Choir Practice Sunday at 9 AM and Monday at 2:30 PM***

<p><b>THE GIFTS -SEPT. 5</b>  Attendance 28</p> <p>Regular Offerings 13,603  Candles 35  Charity – Citrus County  Family Resource  Center 100</p> <p><i>We sincerely thank and bless  Charles and Lou Ellen Davis for  their ongoing generous donations.</i></p>		<p><b>VIGIL CANDLES - SEPT. 5</b></p> <p><u>Dolores Lichatz</u> – Memory of Helen.</p> <p><u>Nick Borick</u> - Health of Olga, Mary  Ann H. Ryan, Richard, Nick &amp; Pat.</p> <p><u>Barbara Aldunate</u> - Health for Debbie  McAuley</p> <p><u>Zina Juskin</u> – Memory of Vladimir.</p>
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