

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Many of us struggle to find balance between our activities, stress and challenges in our life. How often do our conversations center on how busy we are/ and how much we have to do? Let us see how the world of God can answer that struggle

St. Paul asks the Romans, *what will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress ... or peril, or the sword? No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us.* / Isaiah offers us a similar comfort: *All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat; Come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and milk!*

What are we hungry for? What do we thirst for? What are our deepest needs?

The Lord tells us, come to the water! Drink and eat without cost. Receive Jesus Christ, whose love for you is stronger than death – stronger than present or future things, stronger than powers or any other creature, stronger than anything that made us worry; he is and can be the answer to our search, to the loss of sense of many and society; God provide for us.

Saint Matthew in the gospel, show us a picture of Jesus been by himself (looking for solitude to pray); but He found a crowd waiting and looking for him; and his heart was moved with compassion, nor indifferent to those who were suffering (sickness or hunger).

We can ask ourselves what will be the feelings of Jesus, seen the situation of the world today? We can be sure He is moved with great compassion.

To the concern of the disciples about the place and the situation of the crowd, Jesus called them to do something, to care for those who were around; using what they have and doing the miracle to multiply it and made it enough for all.

Jesus calls all of us to do something, not only to be concern but to do what we can, to see and take advantage of the possibilities we may have to serve others in our Parish and community; (Been volunteers at any of the outreach programs in County, supporting Catholic Charities in our area and

in the Diocese, going or supporting St. Pedro mission in Guatemala, among others).

knowing that there are few obstacles to answer this call: indifference, selfishness and the fear of getting committed.

God is truly calling us to care for others, to participate in the work God is doing in the world, and he will give us everything we need to do so. He will do the miracle again, because the real motivation to serve and to help others should be our love for him.

Question for children: how can we share those in need?

Are we conscious of other needs? Do we care for people who are suffering or having struggles and difficulties in their lives? Are we willing to share what we have with others?

Gracious and merciful God open our hearts to Receive Jesus Christ renewal and strengthen our faith to be generous to care for those who may need us. Amen