



# 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Matthew 14: 13-21

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." But Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

### Some things to think about...

- The Mini Vinnies mission is "See, Think, Do." Can you identify where Jesus and his followers saw what was needed, thought about what they could do, and put it into action?
- A big part of the SVP is making sure everyone has access to food e.g. delivering food parcels. How else can you use food to help other people?

### Activity

With your Vincentian Coordinator, come up with an event or activity where you can bring people together with food e.g. Parish lunch, bake sale. Plan what you'll need to prepare and organise a date/time to put this into action.

\*If you have a local SVP link or YVDO (Young Vincentians Development Officer), you could invite them to the event or send them a good news story about it.

## Teacher's Notes

Jesus welcomed the stranger and fed the hungry. Jesus was leading his disciples by example, sharing what he had with others. This wasn't just about feeding people it was about welcoming all and making people feel loved. St Vincent de Paul and Frédéric Ozanam helped feed people of their time who were hungry.

The St Vincent de Paul Society helps people in need by providing food parcels or food vouchers. Conferences (adult SVP groups) in countries like England and Wales are twinned with Conferences in developing countries providing them with money that helps the Conference supply food, housing, tools for basic employment, educating students and many other things.

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