

SUNDAY'S GOSPEL
SUNDAY 17B—JOHN 6:1-15

Liturgy | Sunday 16 Mk 6:30-34 Return of the Twelve
Sunday 16 Jn 6:1-15 Feeding of the Five Thousand
Sunday 17 Jn 6:24-35 Bread of Life (Part 1)

After these things Jesus went away over the Sea of Galilee (the Tiberian). A large crowd was now following him because they saw the **Signs** which he worked on those who were sick. And Jesus

σημεῖα semeia, signs, miracles, distinguishing marks. Signs of the times. Token. Used in John for the (seven?) notable events in John 1-12.: Water into wine, healings, feeding the 5000, walking on water, raising Lazarus. But this is a scholarly interpretation, not something the book says “out loud.”

went up on the mountain and was sitting there with his disciples. It was near to the Pascha, the feast of the Jews. Jesus, **raising his eyes**, then, and seeing that a great crowd is coming to him, says to Philip, “From where shall we buy bread, so that these might eat?” Now this he was saying so as to test him, for he knew what he was about to do. Philip answered, “Two hundred denarii worth of loaves would not be enough for each one to have even a little piece.” One of the disciples, Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, said to him, “There is a little boy here who has five barley loaves and two little fish; but what are these for so many?” Jesus said, “make the people **recline.**” Now there was a lot of grass in the place. The men therefore reclined, numbering about five thousand. Jesus took then the loaves, and having given thanks, gave them out to those reclining; likewise also the fish, as much as they wanted. Now, when they were full, he says to his disciples, “Gather together the fragments left over, so that nothing of them may be lost. They gathered them together, therefore, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the barley-loaves which were left over from what had been eaten. The people, then, seeing the Sign that he had done, were saying, “This is truly the prophet who is coming into the world.” So Jesus, knowing that they would make him king, withdrew again to the mountain by himself alone.

ἐπάρας eparas, turning, raising, from epiro, I lift up. Often physical lifting (hands, etc), but also eyes. And see the Eucharistic Prayer: “With eyes raised to heaven, to you, O God, his almighty Father, giving you thanks...”

ἀναπεσεῖν anapesein, to sit down, lie down, recline; from anapipto I back-fall. The literal meaning is “lie down”, but it is always used (in the NT) before people are about to eat

Jerusalem Bible

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover. Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

Revised Standard Version

The Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiber'i-as. And a multitude followed him, because they saw the signs which he did on those who were diseased. Jesus went up on the mountain, and there sat down with his disciples. Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand.

Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a multitude was coming to him, Jesus said to Philip, "How are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?" This he said to test him, for he himself knew what he would do. Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what are they among so many?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place; so the men sat down, in number about five thousand. Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten. When the people saw the sign which he had done, they said, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world!" Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.